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Benjamin Franklin

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BIOGRAPHICAL
ANECDOTES
OF THE
FOUNDERS
OF THE
French Republic,
AND OF OTHER
EMINENT CHARACTERS,
WHO HAVE DISTINGUISHED THEM-
SELVES
DURING THE PROGRESS OF
The Revolution.



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FOUNDERS

OF THE

FRENCH REPUBLIC.

THE DIRECTORY.

NO sooner had the French overturned the Monarchy, than a grand object presented itself to their consideration: this was the formation of a different species of government.

A model entirely new, in name and form, but not in principle, was then resorted to for the management of the Executive Power, and termed the **DIRECTORY**. It consists of five. It is the chief, and superintendent of all the other constituted authorities: it possesses the initiative, or decision in the first instance, respecting treaties of peace, or declarations of war; the management of the armies, and the nomination to a variety of important public employments, are also within its sphere of action.

The members, one of whom is chosen annually by the legislature, live in great state at the Luxembourg, now called the **DIRECTORIAL PALACE**; receive military honours after the manner of the ancient kings; are surrounded by a chosen guard of horse and foot; clothed in magnificent apparel; and maintained sumptuously at the public expense.

I.

BARRAS.

It is worthy of remark, that the Nobles who, at the beginning of the French Revolution, sided with the popular party, and made a voluntary surrender of their titles, belonged, in general, to the oldest and most illustrious houses, while the Nobility of mushroom growth were, almost to a man, highly indignant at finding themselves confounded anew with the plebeian herd from which they had been so recently set apart.

Paul-François-Jean-Nicolas Barras is one of the former class. When in the South of France the honour of springing from an illustrious race was ascribed to any individual, it was customary to say that he was as noble as a Barras ; and of the family of Barras, that it was as old as the rocks of Provence.

The *ci-devant* Viscomte de Barras was born at Foxemphox, in the department of the Var,* on the 30th of June, 1755. He commenced his military career at an early age, in the regiment of Dragoons of Languedoc, and was soon after promoted to the rank of Sub-Lieutenant in the same corps, in which he remained till the year 1775. Having at that epoch made a voyage to the Isle of France, of which one of his relations was Governor, and finding that there were strong appearances of a war breaking out in India, he solicited and obtained his exchange into the regiment of Pondicherry, and, in the course of the following year, embarked for the coast of Coromandel.

In his voyage thither, the ship was overtaken by a tremendous storm, and driven, in the midst of midnight darkness, upon sunken rocks, at no great distance from the Maldivé Islands. In that dreadful situation, when the crew had abandoned themselves to despair, Barras, who still preserved his presence of mind, roused them from their stupor, and revived their hopes. The construction of a raft was unanimously

* Formerly included in Provence.

resolved upon. A raft was accordingly formed; and while every body else hurried out of the ship, which seemed to be going to pieces, Barras stood looking coolly on, and was one of the last who set his foot upon the floating bridge. It conveyed them in safety to a small island inhabited by savages, whose menacing demeanour kept them in constant dread of having only escaped from death in one shape, to meet with it in another; till, at the end of a month's miserable existence, they were succoured, and conveyed to Pondicherry.

After the surrender of that place, Barras, and many other prisoners, embarked for Europe, and in their passage home, fell in with an English ship of war, which unluckily mistook the white flag, meant to designate a cartel, for the French colours. The consequence was a heavy cannonade, which was kept up for a long time, though only returned by the cries of the defenceless crew. Every body ran below; the water flowed fast through the shot-holes; and it is probable that the *Sartine* would soon have been sent to the bottom, if Barras had not walked through a shower of balls with admirable *sang-froid*, and hauled down the supposed signal of resistance from the ensign-staff.

He next embarked on board Suffrein's Squadron; was present at the action in Port Praya Bay; and served afterwards with a body of his countrymen, under General Conway, at the Cape of Good Hope. On his return to Paris, the seductions of that capital were too powerful for a man of his southern temperament, and professional education, to resist. Amorous intrigues and gaming, the almost exclusive occupations of the French military under the old government, by turns engaged his attention. His good fortune in the one way, and his bad success in the other, had an equal tendency to empty his purse; and are said to have elevated him to the fourth story of an obscure hotel.

At length the Revolution approached, and gave his energies, both of body and mind, a new, if not a more

profitable direction. On the ever-memorable 14th of July, and 10th of August, he was an *active Citizen* in the attack of the 'King's Castle,' and shortly after the latter æra, was appointed a Juror* of the High National Court; but from that duty he was discharged by the interference of a horde of assassins, who basely and deliberately murdered the prisoners at Versailles, in their way from Orleans to Paris.

Sent as a representative of the people to the National Convention: Barras joined the Jacobins and voted for the death of the King, though it does not appear that he was particularly attached to the mountain party, till after the proscription of the Girondists† on the 31st of May. The events of that day being reported to him, by the triumphant faction, during his absence on a public mission, he was induced by deception, by weakness, or by necessity, to acquiesce, if not to join, in the violent plans they pursued.

Several portions of the Republic saw the attack upon the national representation in a different light, and refused to submit to the authority of Robespierre. Among these was Toulon, which not only revolted, but delivered up its port and shipping to the enemy.

Barras was dispatched thither as National Commissioner. Upon his arrival he found that a correspondence was established between the mutineers in the fleet, and those in the army assembling at Nice; and that General Brunet was preparing to follow Admiral Trogoff's example, by admitting the English into his camp. On this he immediately left the place in search of means to defeat the treacherous project. His purpose was suspected by the conspirators; he was pursued; the *tocsin* was rung in order to raise the country upon him; his estate was ravaged; a price was set upon his head; and at Pignans an attack was made upon his carriage:

* *Juré à la haute cour nationale.*

† Notwithstanding his enmity to the party of the *Gironde*, he protected, and still continues to patronise, Bergoein, now the only surviving member of that illustrious and unfortunate deputation.

but with the assistance of his trusty sabre, and two faithful dragoons, he found means to get on horse-back, and escape to St. Tropez. There he procured a boat, set off for Nice, in the dead of the night, landed unexpectedly, and ventured to arrest General Brunet, in the midst of his army.

His exhortations having revived the patriotism of the soldiers, he led them against Toulon, organized the columns that had assembled under its walls, headed that of the left at the assault of Fort Pharon, and after two nights fighting and fatigue restored the port, and part of the shipping, to the Republic. It was at this siege that he discovered the hitherto latent genius of Buonaparte, and by placing him at the head of the artillery, gave to France a General, whose exploits were thought, for a time, to extend

“ Beyond all Greek, beyond all Roman fame.”

On entering the town, Barras informed the Convention, “ *that the only patriots he had found there, were the galley-slaves.*” This observation would leave little doubt of his having been principally concerned in the cruel executions that ensued, if his subsequent conduct at Marseilles did not furnish a contrary presumption. A plan having been laid in that place to massacre the prisoners, Barras gave orders to arrest the authors of it, and sent them before the revolutionary tribunal. This was a high crime and misdemeanor in the eyes of the men of blood, who then domineered over the Republic. They accordingly recalled him, and three different times issued warrants for his arrest, but as often countermanded their execution; so much did they dread the effect of his impetuous despair and well-tried courage.

Notwithstanding the intimations he received of his danger, he refused to quit his house even during the night. He however provided for his defence, and let his enemies know that he was prepared to inflict death on any of their satellites who should attempt to take him into custody.

In order to get rid of him, they then proposed to send him to the army of the Rhine, but he refused to go, saying that his presence was necessary in the Convention. He proved it to their sorrow—He was the last speaker in the debate that preceded their punishment on the 9th of Thermidor, as well as commander of the armed force which overcame the popularity of the Dictator Robespierre, and the formidable cannoniers led on by the ferocious Henriot and Coffinhal.

On two other occasions he rendered a like service to the Convention: when the *Fouxbourg St. Antoine*, by the instigation of the remaining terrorists, broke into the hall, and murdered Ferrand, a representative of the people; and when some of the sections of Paris opposed the decrees by which it was determined that two-thirds of the old legislature should enter into the composition of the new.

However this may be, the value of his assistance on the 13th of Vendemiaire, was so conspicuous in the eyes of the legislative body, that it was the immediate cause of his obtaining a seat in the directory, which he filled, as he did his former employments, in defiance of a law, excluding the relations of emigrants from all places of trust.*

His public conduct since his elevation to the first post in the Republic, has been so implicated in that of his colleagues, that it is difficult to separate the due portion of praise or reproach that belongs to him. From his decisive character, however, it may be affirmed without hazard, that he had a large share in the measures which have recently occasioned the expulsion of two of those colleagues, and their subsequent transportation, along with a number of members of the legislative body. Indeed, it is now well known, that it was he who invited a detachment of the army to the neighbourhood of Paris: that he also brought

* His brother, a knight of Malta, died while serving in the Prince of Condé's army. It was said, also, that he was within the age prescribed by law for a director, but the production of the certificate of his baptism refuted the latter charge.

Hoche thither, with a view to strike a decisive blow against his adversaries ; and that after being foiled in his first attempt, through the jealousy of the Council of Five Hundred, he succeeded at length, by means of his well-known perseverance and intrepidity.

The success that has crowned Barras in so many enterprises, and his escape from so many dangers, will naturally be attributed to an uncommon share of good fortune ; but a great part of both is no doubt due to that strength of nerve, that soundness of judgment, and that speed of decision, which render a man, in a manner, the master of events. This vigour of mind is accompanied, probably produced, by great vigour of body.

Barras is tall, robust, and handsome, and when at a public festival he is adorned with the directorial robe of purple, the scarlet mantle, and a plume of tri-coloured feathers, his figure is altogether noble and commanding ; his skin, however, is of a yellow hue, a circumstance which has not escaped the observation and satire of the Royalist faction.

Abused by one party and panegyrised by another, he is allowed on all hands to possess more genius than learning, and more activity than information. His manners, without having the dazzling polish of the old court, are on the whole prepossessing ; and though speaking little himself, he excels in the art of making other people betray their secrets and communicate their knowledge.

Nature, in a word, has made him a great man, without the aid of artificial acquirements.*

* *“ Le plus grand et le plus bel homme parmi les cinq directeurs, est BARRAS. Il est agréable et gai en société ; mais dès que le danger de la patrie l'appelle au combat, il est un des plus braves défenseurs de la République.*

“ Il s'est acquis surtout cette réputation à la dernière émeute des sections, le 13 Vendémiaire, (5 Octobre), à laquelle il a l'obligation de sa place de Directeur, après le refus de Sieyès et l'omission du profond Cambacérès.

“ Barras, qui dirige à présent le département de la police, était

II.

MERLIN OF DOUAY,

From a poor hovel, has attained the fifth share of a throne, in the most powerful nation on the globe : for his father was a cottager at Anchiem, a village about seven miles from Douay.

In the Abbey of Ancheim, Merlin, while a boy, was placed as a servant : he attended the Monks when performing mass, and was also an *Enfant de Chœur*, or *Chorister*. He, however, resided among the domestics, and on extraordinary occasions waited on company in the dining-room.

Being a smart, ready lad, a Monk kindly undertook to teach him to read ; and perceiving that he had a great inclination to improve, persuaded the Brotherhood to send him to the College of Douay. In this seminary he soon distinguished himself in the most honourable manner among his fellow students.

The Monks of Ancheim wished to make a priest of him ; he however entreated that they would permit him to study law. The Brotherhood accordingly allowed him to follow his inclination ; and, during the period of his studies, supplied him with whatever money he wanted.

As soon as he was admitted a Counsellor in the Parliament of Douay, his old benefactors intrusted him with the conduct of the affairs of their Abbey ; and obtained the same office for him from the Chapter of Cambray, the revenues of which, being very considerable, produced him an handsome income.—In short, so well were the Monks satisfied with his conduct, that they brought about an union between him and a lady of great property, who was sister to one of the Brotherhood. After being settled in this comfortable

un officier distingué par son intrépidité, d'une famille d'ancien noblesse militaire de Provence. Son oncle le Viscomté de Barras, s'état aussi distingué comme un brave guerrier, &c."—Fragments sur Paris, par F. J. L. Meyer, L.L.D. tom. i. p. 220.

manner, they procured him, partly by purchase and partly by interest, the office of *Secretary to the King*; which however was attended with no other advantage than that of rendering his family noble, after twenty years retention.

At the election of the States General he was nominated Deputy for the *Tiers Etat* of French Flanders; a circumstance that roused the envy of his colleagues, who were accustomed to call him *l'Écervelé Merlin*. When he first arrived at Paris, he took a second floor for himself and his wife, in one of the streets near the Palais Royal.

Though retired in appearance, he often received visits from Mirabeau, and other members; and soon found means to distinguish himself, by acting a very brilliant part in the Committee of Feodality. It was he, indeed, who first proposed the equal division of the paternal inheritance among all the children, in opposition to the barbarous practice adopted by vanity and sanctioned by custom, in consequence of which, the whole patrimony was squandered on the eldest son.

Merlin, as well as Camus, is indebted for all he possesses to the Church; and, like him too, he became one of its greatest enemies; for having a complete knowledge of ecclesiastical affairs, he was the better enabled to denounce its corruptions and abuses.

At the end of the first assembly, the Department of Paris offered him a chair in its tribunal, but he refused it and accepted a similar situation in that of Douay, observing, that "the place of his nativity demanded and had a right to the preference."

When the Convention was convoked, Merlin was once more elected a deputy, by his former constituents; but he was little heard of during the reign of the Girondists. When the revolutionary government took place, he moved the famous decree of the 17th September, relative to *suspected persons*, and the no less famous law of the 7th *Nivose*, concerning the equal succession of sons to the inheritance of their parents.

No sooner was the faction of Robespierre overthrown, than Merlin became a member of the Committee of Public Safety, and superintended the important department of foreign affairs. It was he who supervised the correspondence between the committee and M. Barthelemy, lately one of the Directors, and then a diplomatic agent in Switzerland, relative to some negotiations for a partial peace; it was he also who presented the foreign ministers to the Convention. His speech on introducing Quirini, the Venitian ambassador, is much celebrated.

When the French were defeated, by Marechal de Clairfait, on the right bank of the Rhine, during the autumn of 1795, Merlin accused Carnot, as the original cause of that disaster, the latter having issued orders, in express opposition to the general opinion of the committee, that Pichegru should pass that river, without calculating the dangers he might be exposed to from the want of provisions. He had also a dispute with Boissy d'Anglas, another member of the same committee, on his opposition to the union of Belgium with the French Republic.

On the organization of the new constitution, Merlin was elected Minister of Justice; in consequence of this, the Royalists gave him the nickname of *de chancelier d'Aguesseau*. Being placed soon after in another conspicuous department,* they observed, that "the author of the law against suspected persons, was alone worthy of being entrusted with the *police* of the Republic!" In short, every thing done by him is termed in derision by the Royalists, a *Merlinade*!

Notwithstanding this, on the 8th of September, 1797, he was invested with the Directorial purple, in the room of Barthelemy, who had been banished.

Merlin is of a short stature and dark complexion. His dress is plain, and his exterior bespeaks much modesty, he is about 45 years of age.

* That of *Ministre de la Police*.

III.

REVEILLIERE LEPAUX,

formerly called La Reveilliere de L'Epaux.

It is with the qualities of men's minds, as with the natural productions of the earth. Every paltry pebble obtrudes itself upon the eye, while gold and diamonds lie hid beneath the surface.

Before the Revolution, the name and merit of Reveilliere Lepaux were unknown; or limited at least to a very narrow circle. He was born, August 25, 1753, at Montaigne, in the department of La Vendée, and received his education at Angers. After having completed a course of legal studies, he repaired to Paris, with the intention of practising as an advocate; but he soon abandoned the bar, when he found that integrity was an impediment, and unprotected talents no passport to success.

On his return to his native province, he devoted his leisure to the study of natural history; and was successively the founder of a botanical garden, and the professor of botany, at Angers, where he resided four months of the year, during which he delivered lectures. The rest of his time he spent with his family at an estate which he possessed in a small village called Faye, situated upon the banks of the river Layon.

In this philosophical system of life he persevered, till he was chosen a Deputy to the National Assembly, of which he was rather an useful than a shining member, having scarcely ever rendered himself remarkable, unless by the vehemence with which he opposed the pretensions of the clergy and nobles, and demanded their union with the *third estate*.

After the dissolution of the Constituent Assembly, he was appointed Administrator of the department of the Maine and Loire. At that time the discontent of the inhabitants of La Vendée was beginning to manifest itself, and even then announced the explosion which afterwards took place. With a view to prevent

it, he formed a society of patriots, who went about preaching the principles of liberty, at fairs and wakes. But the Royalists, who had also their missionaries, prevailed; and Reveilliere and his associates would have been murdered, if some of the military had not interfered in their defence.

When the National Convention was convoked, he was elected a Member, and voted both for the Republic and the death of the King.* This did not prevent his becoming obnoxious to the *mountain* party, who hated his stubborn temper, and dreaded his penetrating eye.

His principal offence was a paper called *le Cromwellisme*, published in the *Chronique de Paris*, and signed with his name, in which he very happily compared the Parisian demagogues to Cromwell's levellers, and shewed how well he had divined their ambitious and tyrannical designs. A few months after, when they were completely triumphant, he resigned his seat; and knowing well that he had sinned beyond the measure of forgiveness, fled from Paris, though he was not one of the members formally proscribed. During the rest of Robespierre's reign, he wandered about from hiding-place to hiding-place, with not only his own head under the axe of the guillotine, but those of his friends who kindly afforded him an asylum.

As soon as Robespierre was dead, Reveilliere reappeared among the living, and resumed his situation in the Convention: where he was greatly instrumental in completing the Constitution, and in carrying it into effect. An ambitious faction, making a pretence of the commotions that took place on the 13th Vendémiaire, proposed to stop the elections, and to postpone the new system of Government. Reveilliere turned towards them: "What?" said he, "do wretches like you want to reign?"

* It was Lepaux who moved and carried the famous decree of the 19th November 1792, which was ordered to be printed in all languages, and held out an offer of fraternity to all oppressed nations who were desirous to become free.

“ Do I not see in the midst of you a man, who after ordering a female to be stripped naked, had her shot in cold blood ?” His threat to name the person he alluded to reduced them to silence.

The consideration he enjoys among his countrymen, was fully proved when he was elected a Member of the Directory. In the council of Ancients, out of two hundred and eighteen votes, he had two hundred and sixteen. Since his elevation to the high dignity he now enjoys, he has been remarkable for his industry, most of the proclamations issued by the Directory, in critical circumstances, being the production of his pen.

In private life, the character of Reveilliere Lepaux has always been irreproachable, and in his public situation, calumny has never attached itself to his name.

To a considerable knowledge of botany, he joins a taste for the sciences, literary talents of no mean account, and a certain portion of eloquence. His constitution is weak ; his complexion fallow ; and his person diminutive. In consequence of the last of those defects, a stool was offered him to stand upon at some public festival. No ! said he, alluding to his eminent situation in the Republic, and to his want of ambition ; No ! “ *Je ne veux pas être plus grand que je ne suis ?*” I wish not to be more elevated than I am at present.

His friends assert that he remains in office from principle alone, and that he pants for peace, in order to enjoy domestic happiness and retirement amidst his children, his plants, and his books.

IV.

REWBELL.

JEAN REWBELL was born at Colmar, in 1746, and being bred to the bar, attained considerable eminence as an Advocate in the Sovereign Court of Alsace. Long before the Revolution, he discovered his attachment to the principles of justice, by giving his professional assistance to the individuals and villages ag-

grieved by the privileged orders; rather than to the *Noble Chapters*, to the Sovereign Council, and to the German Princes, who retained possessions in France, although they often asked the aid of his pen, and of his eloquence, in support of their arbitrary pretensions. On no occasion did he gain greater credit than by pleading successfully at Paris, against the late Duke of Wirtemberg, who was desirous of increasing the burden of *Corvées*,* which his wretched peasants were already obliged to bear.

This disposition of Rewbell was not overlooked by the people, when the government, in its dotage, blind, and decrepit, was obliged to beg the nation, so often mal-treated, to lead it along. On this occasion he was elected a Member of the States General, and distinguished himself in that brilliant crowd, where great talents were so common, and in which he acquired the reputation of an enlightened friend of liberty.† Soon after the dissolution of the Constituent Assembly he was appointed Procurator General Syndic of the Department of the Upper Rhine, and while in that station, was of great service in allaying the ferment that manifested itself upon the deposition of the King.

Nor were his talents less useful in the National Convention. He was appointed a Member of the Diplomatic Committee, and sent as a Commissioner to the Army that was shut up within the walls of Mentz. The event of that siege is well known. Not all the courage of the intrepid Merlin of Thionville, nor the wisdom and activity of Rewbell, nor his successful efforts to harmonize the discordant minds of the soldiery and citizens, could prevent a capitulation.

• Work done for the Lord of the Soil without any remuneration.

† On the name of the Marquis de Bouillé being mentioned as Governor to the Prince Royal, he expressed great indignation at the proposal, objecting no doubt to the political principles of that nobleman. This circumstance, trifling as it may appear, attracted public notice and procured him popularity.

He was the companion of the same brave garrison in its march against the rebels of La Vendée, and the witness of its almost entire destruction, in a country, and a species of warfare, in which valour and discipline were of little avail. But of all the merits of Rewbell, there are none so dear in the eyes of the inhabitants of the banks of the Rhine, as the pious fraud by which he contrived to protect his native country from the revolutionary horrors that desolated the rest of France: for, contrary to the real fact, he and his colleagues found means to persuade the men of blood, that in the *ci-devant* Alsace, their persons as well as their decrees, were held in the highest reverence.

After the fall of the principal tyrants, Rewbell became a Member of the Committee of Public Safety, and was one of those who gave the severest blow to the faction emphatically styled the *Tail of Robespierre*; especially by moving, and by being the first to sign the decree that authorized the suppression of the Jacobins.

It is to Rewbell, also, that France is indebted for the peace with Prussia, and for the revival of the ancient jealousy between the Houses of Austria and Brandenburg. In managing the treaty of the Hague, which secured to his country a naval ally, and a powerful influence in the Batavian Republic, the Abbé Sieyès was his fellow labourer. Such a succession of meritorious services, placed him in the Executive Directory of France, but his health has of late prevented his accustomed exertions.

Born in a country which once made part of the Germanic Empire, and which is not yet assimilated to the rest of the Republic, Rewbell has little of that polish for which Frenchmen are famed. Suspicious, harsh, and laconic, he does a favour with as great an appearance of ill-humour as other men inflict an injury. But this rough exterior incloses a sound judgment and an intrepid mind.*

* It would be highly improper to omit here, that during the *equivocal* transactions at Paris, between Talleyrand, the French

V.

J. B. TREILLARD

Was bred to the bar, and practised with some degree of reputation, in the ancient courts.† He soon found, however, that the

“ *Vera lex, recta ratio, natura congruens,*”

of Cicero, was not known there. Money, patronage, beautiful women, the protection of Versailles, were all played off before the Parliament of Paris, and those of the provinces, against a good cause, when accompanied by poverty. Procrastination, in the first instance, and too frequently injustice in the last, ensued; and these consequences inevitably led to another, in the shape of general disaffection: which, when arrived at a certain height, became one of the pre-disposing causes to produce a Revolution.

Treillard was appointed a deputy to the States-General, and found means to distinguish himself in that celebrated assembly. In January, 1790, he made a motion respecting the fate of the clergy, and the management of the estates of the church. In March he proposed the three celebrated questions concerning the destiny of those who pretended to dedicate their lives to the austerities of a secluded devotion, viz.

1. “ Whether the religious orders shall be abolished?” 2. “ What shall be the lot of secularized Monks?” And 3. “ What the allowance of those who wish to live in the house, and dress in the habit of their particular order?”

During the Legislative Assembly, Treillard appears to have acted as a Judge in the department of Paris. He was afterwards appointed a Deputy to the Con-

minister for Foreign Affairs, and the American Ambassadors, Rewbell seems to have been implicated as *receiving presents*, for his protection, from the owners of Privateers.

† In 1791, he had obtained the reputation of “ *Un Jurisconsulte Eclairé*,” and even M. de Calonne candidly acknowledges, that he was a sensible, honest, and polite man.

vention, but did not distinguish himself during the reign of the Girondists, or the triumphant career of the Mountain party.

In tranquil times, he once more came forward, and, in 1794, was the first to conceive and execute the plan, for exchanging the unfortunate daughter of Louis XVI. (*Madame Royale*) for Semonville, the Ambassador, and Camus, Drouet, and the other Deputies, who had been detained within the Austrian territories ever since the defection of Dumourier.

Treillard, like many others, suffered himself to be carried away by the stream; and in 1796, on the anniversary of the execution of Louis XVI. administered, as President of the Legislative Body, the oath for the perpetual exclusion of Royalty from France, and its utter abhorrence there.

The following stanza, composed for the occasion, has been loudly censured, both by the Emigrants, and the zealots of kingly power :

“ Jurons, le glaive en main ! jurons à la patrie,
Le conserver toujours l'égalité chérie,
De vivre & d'espérer pour elle, & pour nos droits,
De venger l'univers opprimé par les rois.”

“ On their try'd swords a conqu'ring people swear,
The rights of equal order to revere;
T' enjoy, and hope the blessings Freedom brings,
And vindicate a world oppress'd by Kings.”

The same thing was actually said and done in this country, during the last century; when, after the execution of Charles I. his statues were pulled down, and the following inscription placed on the pedestals :

“ EXIT TYRANNUS, REGUM ULTIMUS.”

And yet there was not a Prince in all Europe who protested against the insult offered the kingly office; nor did a single sword “ leap out of its scabbard” to vindicate regal dignity!

Having been destined by lot to leave the legislative

body, Treillard accordingly vacated his seat in the Council of Five Hundred. Soon after this he repaired to Lisle, in a diplomatic capacity, with a view of bringing the negociation to a speedy termination. This he accordingly effected, for having given in a note, signed by himself and his colleague Bonnier, demanding a categorical answer from the English ambassador, and the reply not proving satisfactory, he haughtily ordered Lord Malmesbury, in the name of the Republic, to set off, on his return home, within the space of 24 hours.

His next mission was to the famous Congress at Radstadt, where the delays on both sides have been so notorious as almost to inculcate a suspicion that none of the contending parties were very eager for peace.

From this diplomatic farce, he was called to participate in higher and more active scenes, for François de Neufchateau having ceased to be a member of the Directory, the Council of Five Hundred chose ten persons by ballot, one of whom was to be selected by the Council of Ancients, and the Minister at Radstadt was returned by a large majority.*

Treillard was considered in the Convention as a man of extraordinary talents; his eloquence, however, was not of the first rate, for he did not rank with the Vergniaux, the Genfonnés, and the Mirabeaus; notwithstanding this, he was far from being a contemptible orator.

In respect to his person and manners, he is about fifty years of age, short in stature, rather clumsy in make, but extremely affable in conversation.

CARNOT, EX-DIRECTOR.

In a despotic country, the slow pace of any proud and pampered animal is sufficient to drag along the pompous carriage of the state; but in the revolutionary and republican race, the prize is sure to be

* The number of members who voted in his favour was 234.

conferred on *speed* and *bottom*. Thus it was that the destinies of France, which under the old government had been often ruled by splendid ignorance, were committed after its destruction to the hands of Carnot.

Lazare Nicolas-Marguaritte Carnot was born at Nolay, in the *ci-devant* Burgundy, on the 15th of May, 1753. His family was considered as one of the most ancient in the place; but it was neither rich nor illustrious, as appears by the profession of his father, who was an Advocate, and is still alive. The son at an early period of life, entered into the corps of Engineers, and devoted his time alternately to the sciences and belles-lettres. He was successful in both. The mathematical essays published under his name, procured him admission to several learned societies; his panegyric on Marshal Vauban, which obtained the prize at the academy of Dijon, was remarkable for the force and purity of the style; while several of his fugitive pieces of poetry were written with a spirit and delicacy that would not have dishonoured the pen of Tibullus or Anacreon.*

The title of a *bel-sprit*, and the rank of a Captain of Engineers, would probably have been the only reward of these versatile talents, if the Revolution had not carried him successively into the Legislative Assembly, the National Convention, and the famous Committee of Public Welfare. When he was elected a member of the latter, the Republican armies were grown familiar with disgrace, and the iron-frontier of France was pierced by the enemy.

The war soon after assumed a very different aspect. It was now common to see the veterans of Austria flying before raw levies of national guards. Of this memorable change an example had indeed been afforded by the successful attacks of Dumourier, as irresistible and as ill-contrived for permanent conquest as the furious incursions of the ancient Gauls. But in the campaigns of 1793 and 1794, the vast and pro-

* The most elegant of these is entitled, "Le Fils de Venus."

found plans in consequence of which the French armies acted, the regularity of their progress, and the art with which their movements were combined, astonished all the nations of Europe. They wondered what soul it was that inspired these mighty masses of men with an uniform spirit, and urged them on to simultaneous action. It was Carnot, who, in a Committee-room at Paris, broke the ranks and the league of the confederate powers, just as Archimides, from his closet in Syracuse, scattered death and destruction among the Roman legions, and set all their boasted tactics and discipline at naught.

Though this is a fact which his enemies do not deny, they have endeavoured to detract from his merit, by asserting that the ground-work of his campaigns was borrowed from the plans of the great captains who lived in the age of Louis XIV.* But as the papers of those illustrious generals have been deposited in the War-Office during the whole of the present century, how happens it that they have never before produced the like splendid effects?

* This circumstance has been alluded to, with perhaps more wit than truth, in the following lines :

- " *Enfant gâté du poltron Robespierre,*
- " *De lui d'abord tu reçus la lumière,*
- " *Et bien prisant ton naturel félon,*
- " *Il t'accola le candide Couthon,*
- " *Le doux St. Just, & l'ingénue Barrère,*
- " *Et ce Collet, des Lyonnais le père,*
- " *Et pour tout dire, enfin ce bon Billaud,*
- " *Qu'injustement on appelait Maraud.*
- " *Dans cet egoût révolutionnaire,*
- " *Dans cet tripot dit de salut public*
- " *Il fut connu que ton minois d'aspic*
- " *Suffisait seul pour diriger la guerre.*
- " *Lors des bureaux pillant tous les cartons*
- " *Et sans génie, officier de génie,*
- " *Tu vins donner avec forfauterie,*
- " *De fort beaux plans pour plans de ta façon,*
- " *Plans que jadis pour abriter ta peine*
- " *Avaient formés les Condé, les Turenne," &c.*

Nor was Carnot merely the guide of the French commanders :—He sometimes vied in intrepidity with the bravest soldiers, and more than once contributed by his presence to turn the scale of victory. He was at the battle of Maubeuge, and commanded one of the columns which carried the post of Watignies by storm.

The champions of royalty, who were anxious to involve all the friends of freedom in the blame resulting from the misconduct of pseudo-patriots, endeavoured to associate the name of Carnot with that of Robespierre. But it cannot be doubted that two distinct powers were employed to put the guillotine, and the French armies, in motion, though the *primum mobile* of both was to be found in the Committee of Public Welfare !

While Robespierre was organizing his revolutionary assassins, Carnot was employed in organizing victory. Robespierre shed a torrent of French blood : Carnot is only accountable for that of the enemy. Robespierre was the terror of his country : Carnot was known by the appellation of the *terror of the Austrians*. These truths were affirmed by the tyrant himself in one of his speeches, when he formally accused Carnot of neglecting the public weal ; of taking no part in civil operations ; and of directing his ambition exclusively to military power.

Carnot accordingly was not often present in the General Committee ; and when there he seldom came out of it without expressing to his friends his horror of the sanguinary proceedings of his colleagues, his fear of perishing by the hands of their executioners, and the hatred and contempt he entertained for Robespierre. He did not always conceal his sentiments from the Dictator himself. One day when that blood-thirsty monster was devising new means of getting rid of his enemies, and talked of giving a more rapid impulsion to the national vengeance, Carnot looked him stedfastly in the face, and said to him in a tone of voice suggested by indignation, "*thou art no better than a cowardly tyrant !*"

He did not, however, escape the obloquy which upon the dissolution of the committee overwhelmed his colleagues. Freron in particular said of him, that he united the wit of Barrere with the heart of Collet d'Herbois, and the head of Billaud de Varennes. Nor can it be denied that he is liable to much reproach, for continuing to act with such execrable ruffians, and offering to make a common cause with some of the least culpable, when they were brought to the bar of the Convention.

He still preserved, however, so large a portion of the public esteem, and so high a reputation for talents, that upon the establishment of the new Constitution he was chosen a Member of the Executive Government. While in that elevated station he was frequently the first to discover, and defeat the projects of the factious. It was he who repaired to the office of the Minister of Police, and devised the means of seizing, at one and the same time, Babœuf, his plans, and his principal associates ; and yet it is a well known fact, that the Newspaper of that conspirator, as well as those of Mahée and Labois extolled his talents, and affirmed that he possessed the confidence of the patriots.

The reign of Carnot, however, has not been long. Suspected of favouring a party in the Legislative Body which aimed at the restoration of royalty, he has been involved in their proscription, and included in the decree by which they were condemned to transportation without a trial.

The last circumstance renders it impossible to decide on his case. On the one hand it seems extraordinary that Carnot, who had done so much to consolidate the Republic, should meditate its destruction ; and that with all his sense, he should not be aware of the danger of a King's not keeping his faith with a regicide. On the other, it must be admitted that it would be nothing wonderful if a man, whose education was conducted under the auspices of the prince of Condé, and who bore a commission in the army of Louis XVI. should have retained a hankering after the fa-

mily of Bourbon, and a monarchical government. Those who are acquainted with the secret history of the Revolution, know that most of the officers, *soi-disant* patriotic, were detained in France by nothing less than their affection for the new order of things, although, for the sake of their persons and reputation, they exerted themselves strenuously in the posts which they found it convenient to occupy. On some future day we shall know the truth. At present, the most probable supposition seems to be, that Carnot did not see a necessity for the violent proceedings of the Directory, and that his opposition was construed into guilt. He was not however taken into custody with his colleague Barthelemy, and with the supposed conspirators of the Legislative Body. By some he is said to have made his escape; by others, to have been killed in the attempt; a third class pretend that he is in England; we believe, however, that he is sequestered in the Austrian dominions, where he obtains nothing more than bare protection.

The modesty of Carnot's manners; the simplicity of his appearance and demeanour; and his habitual taciturnity, do not seem to indicate a fit personage to "ride in the whirlwind, and direct the revolutionary storm."—The active part, however, that he has taken in civil commotions, notwithstanding his quiescent temper, serves only to prove the truth of the maxim, "*that great talents are capable of a very general application.*"

In case of a new war in Germany, we venture to prognosticate, that his loss will be sensibly felt; nay there are not wanting some who assert, that all the recent disasters of France may be attributed to this source.

FRANÇOIS DE NEUFCHATEAU, EX-DIRECTOR,

And successor of Carnot, was born at Neufchateau, a small town of Lorraine, near Nancy. He was edu-

cated for the bar, but his predominant passion was poetry* and the belles-lettres.

In the early part of his life he was an advocate in the Sovereign Court of Nancy, and wrote at that time, the History of the Common Law of Lorrain, a work which reflects much honour upon his talents, and which has ranked him amongst the most learned Civilians of the age. Being, however, too much attached to polite literature, to confine himself to forensic exertions, he sought for other employments more suitable to his inclinations. He accordingly went to Paris, and purchased the office of *Procureur du Roi* in the island of St. Domingo. In that colony he actually passed several years, and published while there, some pamphlets upon Canon and Ecclesiastical Law. At length, however, the climate not being favourable to his constitution, he sold his office, and converting the produce into an annuity for life, settled at Paris.

While there, he obtained the protection of the house of Orleans, by means of the Tutorefs of the Duke's children, Madame de Genlis,† to whom he was introduced, for the purpose of reading *Pamela*, and other sentimental novels, to her pupils. In the earlier periods of the Revolution, he wrote several patriotic pieces for the stage, of which, the tragedy of *Spartacus* met with the highest approbation.

He was afterwards appointed a Deputy in the second Assembly for the Department of Vosges. As a Legislator, however, he made no very brilliant figure. It is only recorded, that when, on the 27th of August, 1792, a report was made to the Assembly, that several Members had applied for passports to leave Paris, on the approach of the Prussian army, François de Neufchateau proposed that all the Deputies should

* He is an associate in the *Section de Poésie* of the National Institute, and has sung the praises of the Vosges, in some charming verses.

† Now Madame de Sillery.

swear not to leave their posts till they were replaced by those appointed to the National Convention.

Although an acknowledged patriot, he did not escape the persecutions of that indiscriminating tyrant, Robespierre. We are informed by the report of Gregoire, of the 9th Vendemiare, third year, that he had been confined upwards of eight months, and was delivered at the opening of the prisons, soon after the 9th of Thermidor.

When the present government was constituted François de Neufchateau was appointed Commissioner of the Executive Directory in the department of Vosges. He filled that office with much intelligence and integrity, but was censured as a severe persecutor of priestcraft and fanaticism. From this useful station he was appointed Minister of the Home Department, instead of M. de Benezech, who had been dismissed. Two months afterwards he succeeded as a Director in the place of the proscribed Carnot. He did not remain long, however, in this high station, for having gone out by lot, we find him in the course of a few weeks afterwards, acting as Minister Plenipotentiary at Seltz, where he negociated for some time with the Count de Cobenzel, who ordered his own play of *Pamèle* to be performed in compliment to him.

François de Neufchateau is between forty and fifty years of age, and frequently afflicted with the gout.

LETOURNEUR, EX-DIRECTOR.

When a man has passed through a great portion of life without exciting much attention, it is fair to conclude, that if he does not possess very distinguished talents, he is at least free from any remarkable vice. This respectable mediocrity seems to be the destiny of Letourneur de la Manche. It was the station also in which he was born; his parents could not boast of nobility, and their fortune was small; but they were in possession of a spotless reputation.

Letourneur was born at Granville, on the 15th of

March, 1751. In the course of an excellent education, he made great progress in mathematics, which procured him admission into the corps of Engineers at the age of seventeen, and that luckily at a time, when it was not necessary to procure a passport from the Herald's Office, in order to arrive at military rank. His usual place of residence, in his professional capacity, was Cherbourg, where he served under the orders of his uncle, M. de Caux, Commandant of Engineers, and where he gained much applause by his ingenious construction of a powder magazine. The revolution found him in no higher rank than that of Captain.

In the Legislative Assembly, of which he was a member, he seldom spoke upon the spur of the occasion, though he made several excellent reports in the name of the Committee of Marine. Appointed at the same time to superintend the entrenchments thrown up in the vicinity of Paris, he found it far more easy to reduce the rude elements of the soil to obedience, than the immense number of workmen he had under his direction.

Upon the dissolution of the Legislative Assembly, he was elected a member of the National Convention, and was soon after sent on a public mission to the South of France. While there, war was declared against the Spaniards, who soon made a rapid progress in the department of the Eastern Pyrenees. Letourneur immediately repaired to the French army, and found the troops in so deplorable a state, that they would have been utterly incapable of resistance, if by tracing out the camp of the Union, he had not favoured their means of defence. This obliged the Spaniards to pause, and gave the French time to strengthen their southern frontier.

Though Letourneur was thought a *mountaineer*, in consequence of the support he gave to energetic measures, all his activity ceased at the fall of the Girondists. He no longer spoke in the debate; he denounced no conspiracy; he took no part in the popularity of the

demagogues, nor in the spoil.—For fifteen months it seemed as if he were not in existence. But when liberty appeared again to enlighten the horizon, Letourneur once more became visible, and was successively President of the Convention, and National Commissioner with the fleet in the Mediterranean, before he was raised to the summit of republican ambition—a seat in the Executive Directory. At the latter end of the year 1794, the Committees of Government having framed the plan of an expedition to India, Letourneur was pointed out as a proper person to be employed on the occasion, in quality of a Commissioner. Instructions for that mission were actually made out for him, but for reasons not wholly developed, although they were discussed in the Convention during almost three whole days, the project was *abandoned*, under the idea of being *deferred*.

It has been said that Letourneur had a fishing establishment on the banks of Newfoundland during the American war; that it was destroyed by the English; and that he planned Richery's transatlantic expedition in revenge; but nothing of this kind can be traced to any authentic source.

Letourneur is a man of a reserved disposition, yet the irritability of his temper sometimes borders upon petulance, and though upright in his own dealings, he is apt to suspect the good faith of others. His mode of life is simple, and his morals pure.

BARTHELEMY, EX-DIRECTOR,

Is the nephew of the Abbé of the same name, who obtained such deserved celebrity by his learned labours, particularly his "*Voyage de jeune Anacharse*;" and who died at Paris in the year 1795. The uncle was patronised by M. de Choiseul, Prime Minister of France, whom he had accompanied, while Comte de Stainville, in his diplomatic mission to Italy. After their return, young Barthelemy was placed in one of the public offices at Versailles, and became initiated at an early

period of life in the foreign correspondence of the administration of that day.

His protector was a nobleman, who united very dissimilar, and apparently incompatible pursuits in his own person. An accomplished courtier, he cultivated a taste for the fine arts, intrigued in every cabinet of Europe, and espoused the interests of literature and learned men. To his agency has been attributed, two of the most remarkable and portentous events of our time : the family compact between France and Spain, and the union of the houses of Austria and Bourbon, by the marriage of Marie Antoinette with Louis XVI.

No sooner had M. Barthelemy attained the age of manhood, than this powerful interest procured him a foreign mission, he accordingly accompanied the Baron de Breteuil to Switzerland, and resided with him some time at Soleure. Thence he repaired with the same Minister to Sweden; witnessed, and, as has been said, assisted in that memorable revolution, the event of which has demonstrated, how easy it is for a Sovereign, aided by a standing army, a parasitical noblesse, and a few soldiers of fortune, to overthrow the liberties of a nation.

When Count d'Adhemar was sent Ambassador to this country, he was accompanied by M. Barthelemy; and on his return to Paris, the latter, who had been before Secretary of Legation, became Minister-Plenipotentiary. He also resided here for a considerable time, during the embassy of M. de la Lucerne.

In the mean while, an important revolution was insensibly preparing in his native country; and it was his singular good fortune, notwithstanding his notorious aversion to it, to be benefited by the event. His family had been protected by the *noblesse*, and both himself and his uncle had received many testimonies of attachment from Louis XVI. It was accordingly imagined, that he would have openly joined the emigrants; one of these two things, however, must have occurred on this occasion: he either became a sincere convert to the principles of the Republicans, and acted from a

conviction of the goodness of their cause ; or he concealed his real sentiments, and, professing open enmity to the Royalists, sacrificed his opinion to his ambition.

It was Switzerland, the diplomatic school of his juvenile years, that was destined to become the theatre of his glory. There he first opened the powers entrusted to him as Minister of the new Republic : and it is but justice to add, that he conducted himself through the labyrinth of his political agency, with equal address and success.

When he first made his appearance in the political hemisphere, he was treated with contempt, and even insult ; but such is the magic of success, that fame no sooner began to trumpet the gigantic efforts of the French armies, than he not only found means to get himself acknowledged, but soon afterwards actually entered into profitable alliances with the very states which had been the bitterest enemies of his country.

When Letourneur went out of the Directory by lot, Barthelemy* was chosen to succeed him in consequence

* This great event was notified to Barthelemy in Switzerland, who having avoided the guard of honour, and all the ceremonial of a public reception, intended for him, on entering the territories of the Republic, by taking a circuitous road, reached Paris in a private manner. On June 6th, 1797, the Directory received him in great state, in the hall where it usually assembles, and the new member addressed his colleagues to the following effect :

“ CITIZENS DIRECTORS,

“ The first sentiment that occurred to my mind, on receiving from the national representation the right of a seat among you, was a conviction of my incapacity. A distant spectator of the glory of the French Republic, and struck with admiration at her prosperity, I know not to what cause I ought to ascribe this excess of kindness and confidence, which called me to the exercise of the first office of the state.

“ But soon forgetting my incapacity, I became sensible of my good fortune. To contribute at the close of a glorious revolution, to the consolidation of the republic ; to preside over the execution of the laws ; to co-operate with you and the legislative body, in repairing the mischief necessarily produced by a long and dreadful tempest, is to me an enviable duty.

quence of the almost unanimous voice of the two Councils;* on his first official interview with his colleagues, he is said to have differed with them in opinion on several leading points, and, in conjunction with Carnot, to have formed a minority in the Directorial Cabinet. This difference of opinion appears, at length, to have increased in so high a degree as to occasion open hostilities to break out between them, and has since led to the expulsion of Barthelemy and Carnot from the Directory, and even their exile from France.

It is supposed that Barthelemy had been so far wrought upon by the Agents of Royalty, who had easy access to him at Basle, as to engage himself to a certain degree in their interests. Those who knew him when he resided in London, describe him as professing attachment to the first Constitution: and he appears actually to have dined at the London Tavern on the famous commemoration of the 14th of July, in the year 1790. Though inclined however to a limited Monarchy, he might not entertain Republican sentiments in the degree in which his situation, as one of the first Magistrates of his country, seemed to require.

No sooner did the *Fructidorean* Revolution of September 4th, 1797, take place, than Barthelemy was

“ Need I mention, that on entering upon my office, I cherish the sanguine hope of finding in the Directory the foundation of a general pacification! I did imagine, that after a grand display of power and energy, the French Republic would pursue a just and pacific line of conduct, and manifest a disposition to treat with her most inveterate enemies. The duration of empires is guaranteed by their justice; and justice and moderation after victory, will be the harbinger of that permanent peace, which ought for ever to confirm and consolidate the constitution which France has acquired.

“ Accept, Citizens Directors, the assurance of my inviolable attachment to that constitution. Accept those sentiments of respect and esteem, which are due to your characters. I derive the utmost gratification from reflecting, that our union under the guidance of the law, will be cemented by reciprocal esteem, affection, and confidence.”

* A little before this, he had been elected a member of the Council of Five Hundred, for the department of *Haute-Loire*.

arrested in the Directorial Palace. In about fourteen days after, he was conveyed in a close carriage to Brest, where he embarked in company with several deputies for Cayenne. On this occasion, a singular instance of attachment on the part of one of his domestics occurred, for his *Valet de Chambre*, followed him thither, and insisted upon accompanying him during his exile.

The period of his banishment was however but short, for he and several others who had been transported along with him, found means to elude the vigilance of the colonial government, and actually arrived at Surinam. The Governor of Cayenne, on receiving intelligence of this event, instantly sent to demand them; on this the Dutch *Commandant* is said to have winked at their escape, on board a neutral vessel. In this ship, they sailed for America; happening however, to be boarded by a British man of war, some of them were sent to England, but Barthelemy's health rendering such a long passage intolerable, he requested to be left in the West-Indies, and he is said at this moment to be in the island of Martinique.

The *Ex-director*, is about forty-five years of age, tall, meagre, fallow, simple in his dress, but elegant in his manners and conversation.

ABBE SIEYES,

Was born at *Frejus*, in the eastern part of Provence, in the year 1748. He was successively a Clergyman, a Vicar General, a Canon, Chancellor of the Church of Chartres; and lastly, he was invested with the permanent administrative employment, of Counsellor-Commissary, from the Diocese of Chartres to the superior Clergy of France.

He was esteemed a learned Civilian and Canonist, and possessed a considerable share of knowledge in the Belles-Lettres; his favourite studies, however, were metaphysics, politics, and economics. He spent the greater part of every year in the capital, where he

associated with D'Alembert, Diderot, Condorcet, &c. He was at this time a member of the Economical Society, which held its sittings in the Hotel of the *Chancellor Segur*.

Notwithstanding these excellent qualifications and connections, it is more than probable that Sieyes would have continued in obscurity through life, if the Revolution had not brought him into a situation calculated to display his talents. Being appointed a Deputy to the States-General, he began his career by the publication of a judicious pamphlet, entitled, "*What is the Third Estate?*" This soon became the most fashionable book in Paris.

After the meeting of the *Tiers Etat* at Versailles, he was the first person who proposed that they should call themselves "*the Assembly of the Representatives of the French People*," and he supported his project with considerable ingenuity. Mirabeau, who was the better statesman, seeing his predilection for metaphysics, took this occasion to warn him of the inconveniences which might arise from applying abstract deductions to the practice of government and legislation.

When the misunderstanding between the different orders in the States-General, assumed a serious aspect, great numbers of troops were drawn around the capital, and the deputies in the popular interest had reason to be apprehensive for their safety. It was Sieyes, who, in the sitting of the 8th of July, stated to the assembly the maxim in the province of Brittany, that no troops should be allowed to approach nearer than within ten leagues of the place in which the States were sitting; he proposed therefore an Address to the King to desire that he would order the troops to withdraw from the neighbourhood of Versailles.

Sometime previously to the month of October, when the King was attacked in his palace by the Parisian mob, a Secret Committee, consisting of the Duke of Orleans, Mirabeau, La Clos, and the Abbé Sieyes, is said to have met in the village of Montrouge, near Paris. They had agreed upon a scheme for placing

the Duke of Orleans in so distinguished a situation in the government, that, with the assistance of his immense fortune, and under the influence of his name, they could not fail to have the command of the populace, and consequently possess a decisive weight in the National Assembly. Whether their design was to render this prince of the blood royal an useful instrument in furthering the Revolution, or to open to him an easy path to the throne, history has yet to unravel: the fact is brought forward in this place merely to shew how far Sieyes came under the denomination of an *Orleanist*.

Certain it is, that he either was, or affected at one time to be, a zealous royalist. In the year 1791, when it was thought that the King, by attempting his escape, had abdicated the crown, a combination was formed, consisting of Condorcet and Brissot in France, and Paine in England, for the publication of a periodical paper, under the title of *The Republican*. Sieyes actually printed answers to essays which appeared, from time to time, in this work, and declared his intentions to support a *Monarchy against a Republic* by every means in his power! - It is not known whether the succeeding events of the Revolution, or some stronger reasons have since operated to render him so strenuous a proselyte to the Republican system.*

Sieyes was the author of the famous declaration of "*the rights of man*," which was decreed by the National Assembly. It was written in his usual metaphysical manner, and excited very different sensations in every country of Europe. Mr. Burke was among

* Notwithstanding this sudden conversion, the life of the Abbé has more than once been in danger. When the *Mountain* prevailed, he refused to become a member of their committees, which produced a sarcastic remark at a time, when a sarcasm was not unfrequently the forerunner of destruction.

On his determination not to take an active part in the plans of the Jacobins being announced in the assembly, a popular orator of that day arose and observed, "that *Monsieur Sieyes* was never to be found at his post."

the most furious of his assailants, and stated that he wanted to reduce the art of governing to the rules of architecture, and to measure the passions of men with a geometrical compass.

His indifference about dignities or eminent situations, which might draw upon him the attention of the public, and consequent responsibility, was strikingly exemplified after the dissolution of the Constituent Assembly. He was designed by his friends as a candidate for the metropolitan church of Paris, but declined the honour, and allowed Gobët* to be elected in his stead. He was then appointed a member of the department, which he neither accepted nor refused; and his conduct on this occasion, favoured so much of arrogance as to disgust even his most partial admirers.

In 1792, Sieyes was appointed a member of the National Convention. Nothing remarkable distinguished his conduct during the first period of that tumultuous assembly. When, however, it voted the punishment of Louis, such was the influence of Sieyes that a great number of members reserved themselves till they had heard his opinion. It was consequently understood, that upon that would depend the fate of the King.—Sieyes at length mounted the tribune; an awful silence pervaded the anxious assembly; eloquence, combined with philosophy was expected on all sides; he, however, interrupted the solemn pause with only five emphatic monosyllables “ Je suis pour la mort !”† and instantly withdrew.

From this time he was so carefully concealed from the public eye, that it was actually made a question whether he was dead or alive. It has, however, been suspected by the Parisians, that he directed, from his retreat, many of the atrocities which were committed under the reign of Robespierre.

Sieyes took no part in the re-action of the *Ther-*

* Gobët, with two of his Vicar-Generals, soon after suffered under the guillotine.

* “ I am for Death.”

midorians. From the death of Robespierre, till February 1795, he still remained behind the curtain, and did not appear upon the stage until he was certain there was no danger of the *mountaineers* regaining their ascendancy. By way of apology for having thus absented himself from business during two years, he published memoirs of his own life, the purport of which was to lament that the mountain party had abused his definitions of the rights of man; and to state that his system had been intended only as the skeleton of civil society, a skeleton which, according to situation, was susceptible of numberless modifications.

From this period began the most brilliant career of Sieyes's public life. Having obtained the unbounded esteem and confidence of his colleagues, he was fixed upon to regulate the external relations of the Republic. It was he, who suggested the scheme of concluding separate treaties with the coalesced powers, with a view to create such a misunderstanding, as would prove fatal to the royal confederacy.

The subsequent conduct of the European cabinets has evinced that the Abbé was right in his conjectures, and thus a Vicar of Chartres has out-manœuvred all he experienced Statesmen in Europe.

The plans of Sieyes, for the aggrandisement of the French Republic, were developed so early as April 1795. He advised his colleagues to retain the Austrian Netherlands, and was the first projector of the alliance with Holland. He, himself, went to the Hague as French Plenipotentiary, for the purpose of concluding that famous treaty.

Those who did not comprehend the designs of Sieyes, highly disapproved of a treaty with a petty power, not geographically united to France, and whose democratic constitution had not been acknowledged by the King of Prussia, brother-in-law to the *ci-devant* Stadtholder. Even the greater part of his colleagues in the Committee of Public Safety were of opinion, that the Netherlands should be restored to Austria; and so late

as the month of August in that year, Boissy d'Anglas gave his opinion in the Committee, that the Emperor would rather endanger his crown than relinquish those important possessions. The opinion of Sieyes was, however, adopted, for the National Convention decreed the union of Belgium with the French Republic.

So signal were the services thus performed by Sieyes to his country, that at the time of the adoption of the new constitution, he was elected one of the five members of the Executive Directory.—He acted, however, on that occasion as he did in the year 1791, when he declined the Archbishopric of Paris.

In February, 1796, he was appointed a member of the National Institute, in the class of Metaphysics and Morals; and, by an unaccountable singularity of choice, the very same man who had declined a place in the Directory, accepted of the chair of literature in the central school at the *College de Mazarin*!

It was reported in May, 1796, that Sieyes was the author of the peace between the French Republic and the King of Sardinia. This is highly probable, because he continued for some time to direct the external policy of the Directory, nearly in the same manner as he had formerly superintended that of the Committee of Public Safety. A treaty so disgraceful to an independent Sovereign, could scarcely have been wished for, even by the most inveterate Jacobins.—The writer of this article, who was then at Paris, recollects, that when the English newspapers reached that city, which contained the memorable speech of Lord Fitzwilliam, proposing a *bellum internecinum*, a great many intelligent Frenchmen avowed that his Lordship's idea was fully justified by the revolutionary diplomatics of the Abbé Sieyes.

This Deputy, on account of the supposed insensibility of his heart, and his cameleon-like conduct, is little beloved in France. In the spring 1797, he very narrowly escaped assassination with a pistol, by the abbé Poulle.*

* This event occurred on the 10th of April, 1797. Poulle

During the preceding Autumn, he was so abused by means of lampoons and pasquinades, that he was obliged to quit Paris upon the entrance of the new third into the Legislature ; and did not leave his retreat until the violent crisis of the 4th of September.

No sooner had this taken place, than he once more appeared in the Legislative and Literary Assemblies, and took an active part in the deliberations of both. A little while after, a new scene was opened to his ambition, and he who had refused to be a Bishop, and even a Director, condescended at length to become an Ambassador.

He accordingly repaired to the Court of Berlin, in the character of Minister Plenipotentiary ; and, notwithstanding the many reports to the contrary, has assuredly met with a distinguished reception. The grand object of his mission was to *neutralise* the King of Prussia, and this he has completely effected, by arousing the jealousy of that Monarch, and pointing out the House of Austria as the *natural* enemy of that of Brandenburg.

Sieyes has been ridiculed by Mr. Burke, who affected, ironically, to recommend to the Reformers here, “ one of the new constitutions ready cut and dry, from the *pigeon-holes* of the Abbé’s bureau.” A literary Emigrant has also endeavoured to characterize him in the following couplet :

“ Le Légiste Sieyes, docteur en style dur,
“ Qui passé pour sublime à force d’être obscur.”

TALLIEN.

No man has had a more weighty part to sustain in

the assassin, who was bred a Clergyman, and had been a Constitutional Priest, (*pretre assermenté & curé constitutionnel*) determined to put a period to the life of the Abbé Sieyes, by whom he had been protected. He, however, wounded his benefactor but slightly ; and the circumstance was no sooner notified to the Council of Five Hundred, than that Assembly testified its esteem by ordering a *bulletin* of his health to be delivered daily.

the French Revolutionary Drama, than Tallien. Although a young man, he may be said to be one of the oldest Republicans, since he was among the first who declared for a government wholly representative. He makes no secret that he was of the *classe roturier*, as it was called, during the existence of the privileged orders; nor indeed can any Republican be ashamed to acknowledge himself *one of the people*, although the term *plebeian* may be retained as an invidious distinction in other countries.

Tallien was undeniably the son of a *valet de chambre*, who resided with a branch of the family of Choiseul, and he himself was entered as a *Boursier*, in one of the colleges at Paris. The best educations in France, as in Scotland, were not so expensive as they are in England; had they been so, Tallien must have followed a different occupation from that of a writer in one of the best conducted Journals of Paris. In the beginning of the Revolution he occupied himself in disseminating the principles of political and religious freedom, and was actually called from an engagement in the *Moniteur*, at fifty livres per week, to be Secretary General to the Commune of Paris.

To whom could the people so readily look for the erection of that column of liberty which they had resolved upon, as to those who, in the public newspapers, had delineated it in such fascinating forms? It is on this ground, perhaps, that the Convention counted among its Members, so many writers and editors of periodical works.

Tallien not only assisted in the construction of the Republican ship, but he was launched in her, and has been always on board without intermission, even to this hour.

His post at the Commune was not the least toilsome, nor the least perilous. Paris for more than two years exhibited a scene of tumult night and day. New dangers every hour, in one shape or other, gave rise to violent motions, and turbulent debates. While, on the one hand, he saw it dangerous for a public func-

tionary to exhibit too much eagerness to check the intemperance of inflamed imaginations, on the other he beheld himself exposed to the hazard of being accused, at a future day, as an accessory to all the outrages committed, whether with or without his knowledge. To whom can the humane man denounce the excesses of an enraged populace in the hour of anarchy? In transferring the power from one hand to another, there must be a precise point of time in which neither can be said to exercise it.

The massacres of September, 1792, appears to be the most anarchical and horrible æra of the French Revolution; for, although unquestionably, there were Magistrates appointed for preserving the peace and the lives of the citizens, both in and out of prison, yet, with the exception of Petion, they remained inactive for the two days those enormities prevailed, as if without sufficient means to enforce their authority; nor have the efforts of the various parties in the different re-actions succeeded in bringing to condemnation, the persons reproached with so great a neglect of duty.

Committees of Insurrection were assembled in almost every section of the metropolis, and in many of them open proposals were made for acts of summary vengeance upon obnoxious persons. It may be asked, was magistracy asleep? Was justice lame as well as blind? Or were the people more than mad? Danton was Minister of Justice, Petion was Mayor of Paris at this period, and Tallien was at the Commune every day. They have all three been charged as participating in the crimes of the first days of September, yet conviction has been brought completely home to neither the first nor the last, and the second of these is assuredly exempt from blame. Tallien ably and satisfactorily vindicated his character from the aspersions, in the Council of Five Hundred, on the 30th of August last, when personal altercations ran so high on the subject of Bailleul's publication. Nay, more, Debonnieres, a Member of the same Council, attested Tal-

lien's humanity and interference in order to save the prisoners, of whom he himself was one.

But the best proof that can be offered of his aversion to cruelty, is the decided, the dangerous hostility which he waged against Robespierre, when the latter made no other use of his vast popularity than to satiate his personal vengeance. Robespierre had marked him down for an early victim, so that in all probability, had not the tyrant fallen himself as he did, Tallien, with Legendre, Barras, Sieyes, and half a dozen more of that *standing*, would have made up, in a few days after, a convenient conspiracy list, in the same manner many of their unfortunate colleagues had done before.

Robespierre used to say "*I cannot see that Tallien without shuddering*;" aware, no doubt, of the intrepidity of his character. The issue proved that his anticipations were just. On the famous 9th Thermidor, when Robespierre rushed to the tribune to reply to the denunciation of Billaud de Varrennes, and was prevented from speaking by the almost unanimous cry of, "*Down with the Tyrant*;" Tallien having obtained a hearing, exclaimed, "The veil is rent, every thing announces the downfall of the monster! I have armed myself with a poniard to stab him to the heart, if the Convention should hesitate to vote his accusation." He then demanded a decree, which was instantly passed, for the arrest of Henriot, the *Etat Major* of the Parisian armed force, and Dumas, the President of the Revolutionary Tribunal. Before the close of the sitting, it is well known that Robespierre and his creatures expiated their crimes upon the same scaffold to which they had sent so many unfortunate victims.

Tallien, it is true, pursued the virtuous Girondists also to the guillotine, with an animosity that will ever disgrace his political integrity. He however confesses and laments, that he has been at times hurried away by the ardour of his principles.

"I may have concurred (says he) in the death of some real patriots, but such was our fate, that Re-

publicans were doomed to die by the hands of Republicans ; a circumstance much to be deplored, but always attendant on great Revolutions !" The outrageous Hebert, the *soi-disant* Pere Duchesne, when on his trial, made an observation on this subject neither unclassical nor untrue. " I see (cried he) the French Revolution has become a second Saturn ; it is devouring its own children !"

Tallien is now the object of the inveterate hatred of the Royalists. They accuse him of having enriched himself while on mission at *Bordeaux* ;* this charge he loudly denies, and it ought to be recollected that no corrupt act of this nature has ever been proved against any one of those Deputies sent into the Departments, at the period alluded to ; though from the unlimited powers with which they were invested, they have been denominated *Pro-Consuls*. It is scarcely probable that discoveries should not have been made, had the alleged transactions really taken place.

Tallien married Mademoiselle Cabarrus, the daughter of a rich Spanish banker of that name, soon after his return from the South of France. Her fortune was very considerable, probably as great as that of the late Miss Scott, now Lady Titchfield. How far the consideration of being protected by a husband, and at the same time a Deputy of the National Convention, might have gained an ascendancy over the lady's mind, when the Revolution spared the heads of neither sex, and was particularly inimical to the rich, we will not take upon us to say.

Madame Tallien is *unfortunately* very elegant in her

* His object in repairing thither, was to quell the *departmental insurrection*, excited by the Deputies so unjustly proscribed on the 31st of May. One of them gives the following testimony of his humanity :

" *Il faut rendre cette justice à Tallien, qu'après la prise de Bordeaux, il y a empêché bien du mal. Sans lui, cette ville auroit été traitée avec autant de barbarité que Lyon.*"

Quelques Notices pour l'Histoire,
par J. B. Louvet, p. 94.

person, and splendid in her attire. She is said to be much charmed with the manners and conversation of the young Director, Barras, and if we are to credit the scandalous stories circulated in Paris, is not altogether exempt from that *suspicion* which Cæsar warned his wife not to incur.

Possessed of an ample income, the whole of which is at her own command, she indulges in all the extravagance of dress and decoration. One day, her shoulders, chest, and legs are bare; on the next, they are adorned with festoons of gold chains, while her head sparkles with diamonds;* and, instead of the simplicity of a Roman matron, she constantly exhibits all the ostentatious luxury of a Persian Sultana. France may be termed a Commonwealth, but these surely are not Republican manners, befitting the wife of one of the most eminent of her citizens.

Tallien, on the other hand, affecting to consider all this as the pardonable excesses of a beautiful Spaniard, is simple in his person, and active and enterprising in his habits of life. After pleading with uncommon zeal against the law of the 19th Fructidor, which includes many Republicans who never quitted Paris in the list of Emigrants, and among the rest, the widow of Condorcet, on this occasion, pointed out by name; he prepared to leave his native country, in order to succour the *then* uniformly victorious efforts of Buonaparte. He accordingly embarked as Commissioner to Malta, on board the *Lodi*, a twenty-gun brig, and was stationed on the quarter-deck, during a long and bloody engagement with the *Eagle*, an English privateer, encountered by accident in the channel of Piombino, and mistaken at first for a man-of-war.

* It is but justice to this lady, to observe here, that Dr. Meyer in his *Fragments sur Paris*, asserts that she does not possess any diamonds, and that the *extravaganza* alluded to above, originated in the *poetical imaginations* of the emigrants.

He adds, at the same time, that in consequence of Madame Tallien's interposition, the effusion of much blood was prevented at Bourdeaux,

Having repaired to Civetta Vecchia to rest, after some stay, they pursued their voyage, and it is not known with certainty, whether the Commissioner has been shut up by the English fleet in Malta, or is now accompanying Buonaparte in his erratic excursions along the banks of the Nile.

Tallien is remarkable for the elegance of his person. He is about thirty-two years of age; of the height of five feet ten inches; thin, and of a complexion inclining to fallow.

As an orator, he neither strikes his auditors with a variety of new ideas, nor by the vividness of his language; he is, however, to be commended for propriety of expression, and the chasteness of grammatical purity. His voice is not sonorous or commanding; but he attracts considerable attention, nevertheless, by a modest deportment and benign countenance. His denunciations are not bitter; and if he can succeed in replying to the invectives of his enemies, he generally puts an end to the contest.

On the whole, he doubtless has many errors, and perhaps many crimes to expiate, but the Republic, on the other hand, certainly owes much to him for the constancy and the zeal with which he has uniformly supported its establishment, and with which he still labours for its consolidation.

PETION.

The French Revolution is sometimes compared to a troubled ocean, and the various factions succeeding each other, have been assimilated to the waves rolling impetuously along until their force is exhausted on the beach, or their form broken against the rocks.

Jerome Petion was born in 1759, at Chartres, the capital of the territory formerly known by the appellation of *Chartraine & Beuce*, and now denominated the department of Eure. His family was not noble, but it was at once opulent and respectable, and he

himself, after having received an excellent education, studied the law, and was called to the bar.

He practised for some years, in his native city, and acquired considerable reputation as a provincial counsel. He also distinguished himself as a man of letters,* and while the Bastile yet stood, he expressed a marked abhorrence of the multifarious abuses which had crept into the French Government, and unveiled the radical defects of its political, civil, and ecclesiastical institutions. A memoir written by him, "on the Laws and Administration of France," so early as 1782, occasioned some search after the author, and had M. de Mirosmenil, then Minister of Justice, discovered him, there can be but little doubt, that the Advocate who had so eloquently pleaded for the liberty of others, would have been deprived of his own!

No sooner had the idea of a legislative body been conceived, and countenanced by the Court, than he precipitated himself as a combatant into the political arena, determined either to conquer or perish. To the *second* Assembly of the Notables, he addressed a "Petition," stating the necessity of granting a double representation of the third estate; and at the same time advised the inhabitants of the country, in a printed "Letter," not to elect Nobles as their Deputies. When the Parliament of Paris proposed that the States General should assemble in the same manner as in 1614, he also replied to their memorial.

When the States General had assembled, he published his "Advice to the French Nation, on the Safety of the Empire;" in which he recommends to attack the root, rather than the branches of corruption, and, above all things, "to redress grievances before they voted supplies." A memoir having been drawn up, by order of the Princes of the Blood, he answered it by his *Petit Mot d'un Marseillois*, a pamphlet which obtained an extensive circulation and celebrity.

His reputation being now fixed in his native pro-

* "See *Oeuvres de Jerome Petion*." 3 vols. 8vo.

vince, he was invited to assist in composing the instructions for the Deputies, and he accordingly acted a conspicuous part in drawing up the *Cahiers* of the *Baillage* of Chartres. His influence however was not sufficiently extensive to enable him aspire to a seat in the first assembly. But to that known under the name of the *Constituent*, he was sent by his fellow citizens, and soon distinguished himself there; indeed most of the great plans brought forward at that period, were either suggested by his wisdom, or enforced by his eloquence.

During this and the subsequent legislature, even when his own party was possessed of all the power of the state, although he himself was daily abused in printed libels of all kinds, he still contended stoutly for the free circulation of opinions.

“What more powerful, or more certain means can be adopted,” said he, “in order to increase knowledge, than the liberty of the press? It is a sublime invention, which makes the ideas of one man common to all; which converts them into a patrimony for every nation; which renders them imperishable, and almost corporeal; which has already so prodigiously extended the sphere of our comprehension, removed the barriers of the human mind, and undoubtedly is preparing new prodigies for posterity.

“The liberty of the press makes the arts and sciences flourish, and gives a new life to all the social institutions; by its means errors are dissipated, prejudices are chased away, opinions struggle with opinions, and after a combat, in which they become refined and purified, truth at length triumphs.

“The liberty of the press elevates the mind, gives energy to talents, and develops and displays genius.

“The liberty of the press is the safeguard of political and civil liberty. Nothing can equal, nothing can supply the want of this species of public censure; it watches while the law sleeps: it restrains when the law cannot repress; it denounces to the public opinion what the law cannot denounce to the courts of justice.

“ The liberty of the press and the slavery of nations are incompatible.”

Talents, such as these, of course endeared him to the popular party, and he accordingly became a member of the Convention, in which, as in the Constituent Assembly, he acquired a great preponderance. What added not a little to his celebrity, was the belief that he was guided in all his actions by principle alone, and his conduct when Dumourier proposed to choose a governor for the Prince Royal, from among the members of the legislature, was always quoted as a proof of his disinterested energy: “ We are deputed,” said he, “ to form the Constitution; we have sworn not to separate till we have accomplished that work; and we cannot, without violating our oath and deceiving our constituents, accept of a place which would oblige us to quit our post.”

In order to make himself acquainted with the criminal code of England, he repaired to this country, under pretext of accompanying Madame de Sillery, and her lovely pupil, the unfortunate daughter of the Duke of Orleans, hither. He accordingly made many enquiries concerning our mode of proceeding, and the nature of evidence, as admitted by our tribunals, and sat several days on the bench, during the trials at the Old Bailey. He also was a guest at one of the public dinners at the London Tavern, and returned home fully satisfied that the ministers of this country would not impede France in her revolutionary career.

Having been bred up at school, and at college along with Brissot, who was also a native of the same town, an unbounded intimacy took place between them. This circumstance naturally led to a connection with the *Girondists*, and he at length became one of the principal leaders of that party.

In 1791, on the resignation of Bailly, we find him Mayor of Paris, and that capital was more than once saved from plunder, in consequence of his well acquired popularity, and the powers of persuasion, with which he was so eminently gifted.

During the ferocious massacres that took place in 1792, he still occupied that important station: but the contrivers of those infernal excesses, by bereaving him of his reputation for patriotism, at the same time deprived him of the power to impede their atrocities. During the hottest part of the bloody scene, he was detained at the Mayoralty by force, but no sooner was he liberated, than he repaired to the place of slaughter, and chased away the ruffians, some of whom, as if conscious of the merit of their services, actually demanded of him a reward!

On the memorable 21st of August, when the King was assailed in his palace by the cries of the populace, who vociferated "*à bas le veto*," Petion had a delicate part to act, both as Mayor and an adversary of the *veto*, which at that time gave so much occasion for suspicion.

On the 10th of August he was detained for a short time in that palace, as an hostage for the safety of the Royal Family; a circumstance which accelerated its destruction. He afterwards voted for an appeal to the nation upon the condemnation of Louis XVI. notwithstanding he was detested by that Monarch, and this gave the *fierce Republicans* occasion to suspect him; so that when the crisis of the 31st of May arrived, he was ranked among the proscribed Deputies, and committed to prison. On the following morning, however, he made his escape, and joined those deputies at Caen, who had conceived, and were then contriving to execute the project of a *departmental insurrection*. Having been deceived by Wimpfen, who at first pretended to be a Republican, and was soon after discovered to be a Royalist, as well as M. de Puissaye, who was to have been their General, and whom they suspected of treating with the Jacobins, the Monarchists, and the English at the same time, they determined to remove into the department of the *Gironde*. Accordingly, Petion, Buzot, Louvet, Gaudet, and Barbaroux, assuming the dress and accoutrements of volunteers, marched, or rather escaped across

the country to Quimper, whither they at length arrived, after struggling with innumerable difficulties.

There they remained concealed for some time, and were at length so fortunate as to procure a vessel, which, on the recommendation of some worthy merchants attached to their cause, was to carry them to Bourdeaux by sea.

On this new element, they were once more exposed to a thousand dangers. In the first place, they were obliged to sail under the convoy of the Brest fleet; and had it not been for the conduct of the Captain, who at the risk of his life saved theirs, by stoutly denying that there was any passengers on board, they must inevitably have been immolated to the fury of the Mountain.

But this was not all: they were still more afraid, if possible, of meeting with a British Squadron, then cruising in their immediate neighbourhood; and had all entered into the desperate resolution, in that case, to sacrifice their existence, in order to save their honour: for it had been given out by their enemies, that they were in league with the English Cabinet; and had they been taken, this circumstance alone would have seemed to justify the suspicions, so artfully propagated against them.

At length, however, they arrived within sight of the place of their destination; but their dangers instead of abating seemed to multiply every moment. They now learned that the moment they came to anchor their little vessel was to be visited, and searched by a cutter from the Commodore; and heard also that the garrison of the fort carefully inspected all passengers, and demanded their passports. In this dilemma they determined to land toward the evening in an unfrequented spot, and having at length effected this, and handsomely rewarded the faithful master of the little vessel, they walked forward towards Bourdeaux.

Afraid to venture into this city, notwithstanding they imagined the inhabitants in arms for them, they repaired to a house in the neighbourhood, pointed out

by one of the proscribed Deputies, who had sent notice to the family of their intentions. On their arrival, however, they found the mansion empty, and with great difficulty procured the key. This circumstance exhibiting a sinister aspect, they determined to reconnoitre the neighbourhood, and Petion and Gaudet were selected for that purpose.

On their return, they reported, that instead of the *Gironde* being in a state of insurrection on their account, they could not find shelter any where, even for a few hours; that in Bourdeaux the section of Franklin declaring for the Jacobins, and an armed force having presented itself at the same time, the more respectable citizens had been overcome by the rabble; that *Chateau-Trompette* and *Fort Blaye*, both in possession of the Girondists, had surrendered, and that Tallien and the Deputies of the Mountain had entered in triumph.

All these facts were soon confirmed by the most doleful experience; the inhabitants in their vicinity, who had always viewed them with a jealous eye, began to be in motion; they were destitute of arms, ammunition, and provisions; their friends were afraid not only to shelter but to succour them, while troops and even cannon were advancing against them on all sides: in short, their destruction appeared to be inevitable.

Having found means, however, to effect their escape, during the night, they had the good fortune to cross the Dordogne in a ferry-boat, and elude the vigilance of fifty troopers dispatched in pursuit of them, by taking refuge in a quarry.

Exposed to the fury of the elements, destitute of clothes, provisions, and even of shoes; subsisting only by accident, and liable every moment to destruction, what was now to be done? They were not possessed of the means of any longer combating the enemy, and even their own preservation became exceedingly precarious. It was impossible to keep in a body and remain undiscovered; and the thought of separation was dreadful.

At length, after many painful struggles, it was resolved to divide. Salles and Gaudet taking the road towards Landes, were soon after seized, carried to Bourdeaux, and, after a mock trial, executed there. Barbaroux, Valady, and Lovet, crossed the country towards Mont-Pont, where the last left them, and, after a variety of romantic adventures, reached Paris; escaped thence to Mount Jura, returned, and was recognized as a martyr, after the Thermidorian Revolution, and at length, as if by a miracle, died in his bed! Of the two former, Barbaroux was seized and carried to Bourdeaux, where he perished on a scaffold; and Valady, after escaping from his own poinard, being recognized at Periguéux, experienced a similar fate.

In the mean time, Petion and Buzot having determined to remain together, and undergo the same fate, wandered about from place to place, sometimes taking shelter in a barn or an empty hay-loft; sometimes exposed for whole days and nights to the inclemency of the atmosphere, and often destitute of the means of supporting life.

Nature being exhausted by so many privations, at length yielded to the pressure, and their *emaciated* bodies were found stretched on the ground in the same field, in the Department of the Gironde; for dreadful to relate! they were both supposed to have perished by want, in the very centre of one of the most fertile provinces of the Republic.

Thus fell, in the most wretched and forlorn state that humanity can be exposed to, the eloquent; the virtuous, the incorruptible Petion, but a few months before the idol of the French nation, and one of the main pillars on which it relied. He was a victim to a revolution zealously promoted by himself, but of which its authors had not sufficient energy, or perhaps atrocity of character to control.

In the mean time his wife, like those of the other proscribed Deputies, had been exposed to the vilest and basest persecutions. Madame Petion, a beautiful and accomplished female, rejecting the counsels of her

mother, a proud and haughty woman, who was attached to Monarchy and Aristocracy, had imbibed and maintained the principles of her husband. While that celebrated man filled the civic chair, she presided as Mayoreſs with a dignified ſimplicity, and exhibited on every occaſion the moſt affable manners and the moſt engaging moderation. Soon after his eſcape ſhe was imprifoned, and reduced to dreadful diſtreſs, being obliged to have recourſe to the bounty of her friends, in order to ſupply her with common neceſſaries. She was at length releaſed, but her own calamities and thoſe of her family, had made ſuch a deep impreſſion on her mind, that her imagination was for ſome time diſordered, and what is not a little remarkable, ſhe ſtill ſuppoſes her huſband to be alive, and daily expects his arrival !

Petion was a handſome, good-looking man, no more than thirty-four years of age ; his complexion was fair and florid, and he is thought by many, in his perſon to have reſembled the Marquis of Lanſdowne, when that nobleman was at the ſame period of life.

GENERAL MOREAU.

This youthful General, deſtined like many of his contemporaries, from humble beginnings to attain high military rank and uncommon celebrity, was born at Morlaix, in *Baſſe Brétagne*, now included in the Department of *La Vendée*.

His father was a man of great reſpectability, and on account of his integrity, diſinterreſtedneſs, and private virtues, although a lawyer, was generally called the *father of the poor*. On the breaking out of the Revolution, ſuch was the general confidence in his honeſty, that he was ſelected by the gentry and nobility of Morlaix, and its neighbourhood, more eſpecially thoſe who propoſed to emigrate, as the moſt proper perſon to be intruſted with the management of their affairs. The great number of deposits which he received on this occaſion from the nobles and emigrants,

contributed not a little to bring him afterwards to the guillotine, under the government of Robespierre, and he was put to death at Brest, by order of Prieur, then on mission in the Department of Finesterre. It is not a little remarkable, that on the very same day the father suffered by the command of the tyrant, the victorious son entered Sluys in triumph, and added it to the dominions of the Republic!

Several eye-witnesses have declared, that the people present at his execution shed torrents of tears, exclaiming several times, "They are taking our father away from us!"

Young Moreau evinced from his early youth a strong prepossession for a military life, and at the age of eighteen, actually enlisted as a soldier. His father, however, who considered this conduct as the effect of imprudence, bought his *congé*, and sent him back to resume his studies. Whether the law proved an unpleasant profession to him, or whether his propensity for arms got the better of every other inclination, it is certain that he soon enlisted again.

The elder Moreau, hurt at this second act of rashness, with a view that he might experience some of the hardships of the life he had chosen, suffered him to serve as a private for a few months; after which he was prevailed upon, by his friends, not to let the young man continue any longer in that low condition, as it would occasion him to lose the benefit of his early education. Before the Revolution, a man who was not of the *cast of the Noblesse*, had little hope of advancement in the army, whatever might have been his merit. Moreau was therefore, almost in spite of himself, compelled again to return to the dry study of the law, and to follow the profession of his father, who was eminent in this line.

When the Revolution took place he was *Prévôt de Droit* at Rennes, a mark of superiority among the students in law. In that office he acquitted himself to the complete satisfaction of every body. It is said, that when M. le Chevalier de Brémieres brought the

Edicts of May, 1788, to the Parliament of Rennes, to be registered, Moreau, then a supporter of the privileged order against the Crown, went to the Literary Chamber, and made an offer of the services of the students, together with those of a great number of other young people, against the measures of the Court. Observing, however, their stubbornness and want of principle, he soon relinquished his concern for their interest, and espoused the party of the people.

In the month of October, 1788, the States of Brittany assembled at Rennes; but the *Tiers Etat* were not then willing to sit with the two other orders, composed of Nobles and Clergy; the latter, therefore, summoned the Syndics of all the Corporations to appear among them, but were constantly opposed; and this, instead of quieting, increased the general dissatisfaction. At length, with a view to force them to put an end to their sittings, the people met in the place called *Le Champ Montmorin*, and at the same time, about twelve hundred young men of Nantes, zealous supporters of *the new order of things*, arrived armed at Rennes. The City Magistrates were at first unwilling to let them enter; upon further consideration, however, they received and lodged them in the houses of the *bourgeois*. These young men lost no time in joining the people, who continued in the *Champ le Montmorin*, and were now preparing to besiege the hall of the Assembly.

Affairs being so circumstanced, the States appointed a deputation to request them to send delegates to examine the register of the deliberations, and to make their report to the people. Young Moreau, who enjoyed not only the confidence of the people of Rennes, but that of the youth of Nantes also, was the first person chosen, and entered with three others into the hall, where the States were sitting. He conducted himself on that occasion with so much ability, that the result of this conference was the complete triumph of the people; for it was agreed, that the States should dissolve, and that the young men of Nantes should re-

turn home peaceably. Such was his moderation, that even the most inveterate enemies to the popular cause, bestowed on him the loudest praises.

From that time his reputation daily increased; and upon the formation of the National Guards, in 1789, he was made Colonel of one of the battalions. This honourable situation furnished Moreau with the opportunity of indulging his inclination for a military life. He accordingly soon abandoned the dry and tortuous study of the law, and applied himself to tactics, with such steadiness, that in less than three months he was perfectly adequate to the command which had been entrusted to him. Expert military men have assured the writer, that he became so great a proficient in his new study, as to be better acquainted with the management of a battalion, and the evolutions and manœuvres incident to it, than many old officers.

Such, at that time, was the persuasion of Moreau, of his own capacity for military affairs, that he was heard several times to exclaim, "I shall soon become a Commander!" He indeed laboured so successfully to attain his object, that his skilfulness and courage were not long unnoticed, especially while serving under Pichegru.

Moreau, accordingly, was not disappointed in his expectations; for in June, 1794, he was promoted to the rank of General in Chief, and conducted the siege of Ypres, which he took in twelve days after the opening of the trenches. The garrison, consisting of 6000 men, were made prisoners; and 100 pieces of cannon, and 29 standards, were taken. This event occurred on the 29th Prairial, 2d year. (17th June, 1794.)

In the following August, he took *Fort l'Ecluse*, containing 152 pieces of artillery.

If, however, this young General distinguished himself in a striking manner in all the different commands with which he was intrusted, during 1794 and 1795, the campaign of 1796 was destined to eclipse all his other achievements. In June he commanded three columns of the army of the Rhine and Moselle: with

one of these he attacked Fort Kehl,* which soon after surrendered; with the second, he crossed the Rhine at Watzenau; and with the third, at Selt.

On the 28th of June, the great battle of Kenchen was fought; in which General Moreau, after having been joined by his cavalry and artillery, forced the Austrians to retreat in great disorder, with the loss of 1200 men killed, a number of prisoners, ten pieces of cannon, &c. The field was covered with the slain.

July 5th, another general engagement took place between him and the Archduke Charles, when the Austrians were again defeated. From this victory he flew to a third, equally glorious, and more profitable to the French Republic. Upon the Upper Rhine he forced the Duke of Wirtemberg to solicit a suspension of arms, on conditions which were at once honourable and useful to the Republic: and while the army of the Sambre and Meuse was retreating under Jourdan, that of the Rhine and Moselle, under Moreau, was pursuing its victorious career, even to the gates of Ratisbon, thus shaking the Germanic Empire to its centre!

It would occupy too much space in this volume, to give a detail of all those military operations during a campaign that contributed to crown the brow of Moreau with unfading laurels.

The most glorious epoch of his military history was

* Kehl was afterwards retaken, but not until it had experienced a long siege, that diverted the Austrian troops from infinitely greater objects.

The following *Billet* from the French Commander, will serve to shew, that he announced this event as if it had been a victory rather than a defeat.

General Moreau to the Minister at War.

21st Nivose (January 10th), 1797.

" Citizen Minister,

" I have only time to say, that Kehl will be evacuated this day at four o'clock. We carry away every thing, even the pallisades and the enemy's bullets.

MOREAU."

his masterly retreat out of Bavaria, which, in the judgment even of his most inveterate enemies, and of all professional men, was far more honourable to his talents than any of the victories which he had gained. Like Turenne, he served the interests of his country more by that measure, than he could have done by the most dazzling conquest; and if we account the former a consummate General, rather for his having kept in check superior bodies of the enemy, by his well-concerted marches and counter-marches, than for any splendid victories obtained by him; we should in like manner, attribute to the latter the character of a great Commander, on account of his memorable retreat of 1796.

About the middle of September, affairs began to take an unfavourable turn, and Moreau, till now victorious, was forced to quit his position on the left bank of the Yser. He was pursued by the Austrian General Latour, and on the 29th, the enemy having made themselves masters of the highest parts of the mountains of the Black Forest, and of the rivulets, which, running westward to the Rhine, form the only passes whereby an army can descend from these mountains to the Brisgau: Moreau had no other alternative than either to attack the foe, in order to gain the *Vals d'Enfer*, which enter the Brisgau near the town of Fribourg, or to make his retreat by the territory of Switzerland.

Finding himself closely followed by Latour, Moreau attacked him, but was repulsed with great loss, while, on another side, the Austrian General, Petrasch, posted between the sources of the Neckar and of the Danube, incessantly harassed the rear of the French.

At this critical moment it was reported and believed that Moreau was completely surrounded by the Austrians; that his army, in consequence, could not escape; that it must capitulate; that no possible art or exertion could prevent a total defeat; and that not one of his soldiers would ever reach France to carry the news of the misfortune. Europe, however, soon

witnessed the inexhaustible means and resources which are in the power of a truly great General.

Early on the 2d of October, the left wing of the army crossed the Danube at Reidlengen, and repassing it at Murdurkingen, turned and defeated the corps posted between the Federsee and that river. Moreau then attacked Latour in front, and after an action of six hours, maintained on both sides with great obstinacy, forced him to abandon his ground and retire behind the Rothambach. Thus a retreating army, by the unexpected audacity of its General, took more than 5000 of its pursuers prisoners, together with 20 pieces of cannon.

The General, having thus far succeeded in his design, recommenced his march by the route of Stochach, and on the 18th of October reached Fribourg, and established his head-quarters at Furg.

This retreat, will always constitute a memorable epoch in the annals of the Republic; and the name of Moreau will stand conspicuous among the Buonapartes, the Turennes, the Marlboroughs, the Eugenes, the Villarses, the Fredericks; and, in short, the most celebrated of modern Generals.

A well authenticated anecdote, does no less honour to the character of Moreau, than his various military exploits, achieved within the compass of so short a period.

His unfortunate and virtuous father, before he was guillotined, made a will, in which he advised, with much paternal affection, that his son should marry a lady whom he named to him. Moreau, alike the dutiful son and able general, quitted the army as soon as possible, repaired to Morlaix, shed tears over the grave of his parent, and became united to the amiable Lady who had been recommended in his will: Filial obedience is in common men a duty; in great men heroism.

Soon after this epoch, his laurels appeared all of a sudden to be blasted, and his disgrace, and even punishment seemed inevitable. Pichegru, under whom he had at first distinguished himself, and with whom he

was still connected by the ties of friendship, began to be suspected. On the revolution of the 18th *Fructidor*, 5th year (September 4, 1797), a correspondence, supposed to be highly criminal, was detected, and Moreau was first arrested, and soon after dismissed from his command.

The storm, however, seems now to have blown over, for he has been lately sent to the army of Italy, in quality of *Inspector General*, and should hostilities be renewed, he will undoubtedly be placed once more in some eminent and effective situation.

DANTON.

George-Jacques Danton, born at *Arcis sur Aube*, was considered at one period as the *Ajax* of the Revolution. His extraordinary vigour of mind and personal courage left him no equal in his political career. The frame of his body was athletic, and his conceptions gigantic; he was that kind of pilot, who in a dreadful storm keeps the frightened seaman to his duty, and prevents the bark from being abandoned to its fate.

In all new dangers, and great or unexpected shocks, his colleagues were eager to learn his opinion of the measures to be pursued. Thus it was that in the trying crisis of the Revolution, when Valenciennes, Condé, and Quesnoy, were in the hands of the Austrians and English; Mayence in those of the Prussians, Lyons in rebellion, and the *Vendée* throughout in insurrection; Bourdeaux, Marseilles, Brest, and many other ports and capital towns in a state of disaffection—the men of highest consideration with the legislature and the people, not only solicited him to become a member of the committee of public welfare, but offered to propose the erecting it into a permanent government or directory, provided they could assure themselves of his continued assistance, and count upon the benefits arising from his personal influence.

Danton had sagacity enough to see the danger of the proposition, which he nevertheless rejected with

an air of complacency. This is the precise moment when the hatred and jealousy of Robespierre became implacable, and from which Danton's certain ruin may be dated. The great share of popularity which the latter enjoyed rendered him odious in the eyes of the former, who was playing, though with less éclat, a deeper game. Robespierre considered Danton as a luminary of greater magnitude, capable of eclipsing his own brightness; and the most discerning among the partizans of both these men regarded them as two suns, which could not shine together in one hemisphere. Nevertheless it required all the art and all the hypocrisy Robespierre was master of, to pull down so mighty a Colossus: he therefore managed his hatred, and concealed his deadly design, till the proper moment should offer when its accomplishment could scarcely be doubted.

In the mean while, though Danton refused to *act*, he never shewed himself backward to *advise* upon what ought to be done in occasions of exigency. Thus when it was apprehended that the armies could no longer maintain their ground, or continue under arms for want of necessaries, he recommended the measure of putting every article required for the service under *requisition*.

"The country has need (said he) of all its resources, to save itself from the ravages of external enemies; why do we hesitate therefore a moment about the propriety of impressing those resources? Every bushel of corn, every grain of gold to purchase it, if needful, may lawfully be forced into the service to free us as a people from complete subjugation:" and then with the voice of a Stentor he added:

"The revolutionary wheel appears to move with languor, apply a new lever to it, and I will undertake for its progress (*y-appliquer une nouvelle manivelle & ça ira j'en réponds.*)" These words resembling thunder in sound, and lightning in effect, electrified the whole assembly, and especially the energetic part of it, which was denominated *the Mountain*. The saving their country, thus declared to be in danger,

they considered to be an imperious duty, and therefore from this moment they were less scrupulous about the means than they were determined as to the end.

Upon this followed the establishment of the Revolutionary Tribunal, of which he was the prime mover, the law of the *maximum*, the *armée révolutionnaire*, the decree for remunerating the citizens with forty sous a day, for the loss of time while attending the sectional committees; with all the other extraordinary proceedings which, when the danger was over, were called *ultra-revolutionary*. He, therefore, beyond all contradiction, did *more* for the Revolution than any one of the actors in it.

Danton had been a commissioner with Lacroix in the Low Countries, when the army of Dumourier over-ran it; and rumours were circulated that he had enriched himself in that expedition to the dishonour of his country. But where are the riches which these accused men have been suspected of amassing? Every thing he had was confiscated to the nation, but no wealth was found. It was not so with the Farmers-general, for when the decree (a cruel decree every one must allow) took away their lives, their vast possessions were exposed. The enemies of the former men were no less merciless than those of the last. If there had been any reality in the charge of speculation, the proof would have been brought forward without doubt.

Danton after all was an ambitious man. He was at the head of a faction, and had almost the whole of a formidable society under his dictation. The *Cordeliers* ranged under his banner, as the *Jacobins* did under that of Robespierre. These clubs had both been *purified* again and again, which means nothing more or less than that they were fashioned to the designs of their leaders, whom they were implicitly to obey and follow. The jealousy or rivalry of these two clubs furnished their champions with sufficient weapons of destruction. The finess of Robespierre prevailed over the frankness of his adversary, and by means of the

trick (now grown quite stale) of an Orleans faction, Danton, Herault, Fabre, and five others of that class, were consigned to the deadly tribunal. In consequence of their demurring to the *legality* of the proceedings, they were all put out of the law (*mis hors la loi*), and executed the very day their trial was expected only to commence. By this precipitancy the Cordeliers, both men and women, were anticipated in their resolve to rescue Danton, the favourite of the populace, at the place of execution. His last words accorded with the last actions of his life: indeed he never spoke but his language, though very different from the *magnum loqui* of Horace, gave his hearers an idea of something more than common. When Fouquier Tinville, the public accuser, interrogated him, according to the custom of the court, as to his name, occupation, and residence, "*I am Danton* (answered he) *well known as a Deputy to the National Convention; my residence in a few hours hence will be in the grave: but my name shall live in the Pantheon of history.*"

Thus fell one of the most energetic Revolutionists of France, to the grief of the *Sans-culottes*, the joy of the *Aristocrats*, and the astonishment of all who had not considered what ferocious passions are brought into activity by a great contest like the present.

Danton was but 35 years of age, tall and corpulent, of strong and harsh features, with a powerful voice, and a manner peculiarly impressive. By his mien, taken all together, it appeared that nature intended him more for the turbulent than the calmer walks of life.* He was bred to the law, and as is supposed, was expressly chosen Minister of Justice at the eventful period of the arrests in August and September, 1792, on account of his morose disposition, and the vengeance he had uniformly sworn against the partizans of the court. He was charged (and we fear but too

* His ruthless disposition and terrific aspect occasioned him to be likened to Neptune striking on all sides with his trident, and on all sides, either creating or assuaging the tempest.

justly) with connivance, while in office, at the massacres of the prisoners on the 3d of September, 1792. This is however a transaction covered with almost as much obscurity as atrocity, and which perhaps may never be fully exposed to light. He completed his 35th year the day before his death, being born on the 4th of April, 1759, and guillotined on the 5th of April, 1794.

Of this singular man, Garat seems disposed to think well, and supposes that he meditated a new revolution, against Robespierre, and in favour of liberty, after which it was his determination to repair to his farm at *Arcis sur Aube*, and spend the remainder of his life in the enjoyment of domestic felicity, and the pleasures of a country life.

Soon after the memorable events of the 31st of May, in the guilt of which day Danton but too deeply participated, when Garat hinted to him his opinion, couched in the ingenuous confession of Aristides: "that Athens would never be at peace, until both himself and his rival Themistocles, were thrown into the *Barrathrum* ;"* he replied, with tears in his eyes: "that he would propose to the Convention an *ostracism* for the leaders of both parties, and most willingly repair to Bourdeaux, as a hostage for the public safety."

GENERAL PICHEGRU.

When hostilities with the Emperor were inevitable, the want of Generals in France became matter of triumph to the *Aristocrats*, and of despair to the patriotic party. The loss of Maillebois, de Broglio, and de Castries, was thought irreparable, and the fortune of the state became entrusted to the driveller Rochambeau, to La Fayette, a partizan in the *petite guerre* of America, and to the stupid Luckner, who, after 30 years service in the French army, knew not enough

* A deep and obscure gulph, into which criminals were precipitated.

of the language to return thanks for a compliment paid him by the Jacobins.

It was natural, however, to suppose, that when the qualification of General was extended to a whole army, more would be found than when it was confined to a few individuals. And so upon experiment it proved. In every campaign we have seen private soldiers and even private citizens giving proofs of the highest military talents; and have often been astonished at receiving the news of a splendid victory along with the first mention of the successful commander's name. Of all the French Generals, Buonaparte alone excepted, no one has gained greater renown than Pichegru.

General Pichegru was born in 1761, at Arbois,* in Franche-Comté. His parentage was mean, but he received a good education, under the tuition of the monks belonging to a convent in his native town. Having made great progress in the sciences, he was sent by the good friars to teach philosophy, and mathematics, in a college appertaining to their order at Brienne. This circumstance gave rise to the ill-founded report of his having been a monk of the order of *Minims*.

He afterwards enlisted in the first regiment of artillery, and soon rose to the rank of serjeant, the highest to which a plebeian could aspire; but when the Revolution came and opened a road for untitled merit, he was promoted step by step to the command of an army.

The first mention of his name as a general officer, was in consequence of a victory he had obtained over the combined armies at Hagenau, on the 8th and 9th of December, 1793. The report of this splendid action having been read to the Convention, a decree was instantly issued, in consequence of which he was appointed to succeed Jourdan in the command of the army of the North.

He had not been long known, when, in conjunction

* This town was formerly included within the Bailiwick of Aval, and at present constitutes a part of the Department of Jura.

with Hoche, he marched to the relief of Landau. Though it was in the midst of a severe winter, the attack on the Austrian positions was renewed day after day, with doubtful success. On the 5th, Pichegru was seen in the front of the line, in the midst of a tremendous fire, waving his hand and exclaiming, *Point de retraite aujourd' hui mes enfans !** That day there was no retreat; and very shortly after Landau was relieved.

At the beginning of the ensuing campaign, he was appointed to oppose Cobourg in the North; and *ordered* by Robespierre's committee *to conquer*.—This imperious command, which plainly implied that the guillotine would be the reward of ill-success, was accompanied by directions to press the Austrians in the centre, and to content himself with harassing them upon the flanks. Finding that the blood of his soldiers flowed to no purpose as long as he did so, he left Landrecies to its fate, and boldly advanced into the enemy's country upon Cobourg's left. The victories of Meucron, Courtray, and Hoogleden, justified this movement. Jourdan, who commanded the army of the Sambre and Meuse, being ultimately successful upon the right, Prince Cobourg was obliged to fall back with his centre, and abandon his conquests in French Flanders, as well as the whole of the Austrian Netherlands.

This campaign would have been still more decisive, if a plan devised by Pichegru and Carnot could have been carried into execution. While a sufficient force was acting upon the front of the allies, and fifty thousand men were guarding the passage of the Rhine, to prevent their receiving reinforcements, the army of the Moselle was to have fallen upon their rear. This plan, by placing Prince Cobourg between two fires, would have insured his total ruin, and cut the sinews of the war at a single blow; but its execution was prevented by the necessity of incorporating the army of the Moselle with that of the North.

* "No retreat, my boys, to day."

Having thus rid himself of the Austrians, Pichegru turned towards Holland, and availing himself of a seasonable frost, which gave his troops a free passage across the rivers and canals, pushed the British and Dutch army before him, and entirely over-ran a country, unconquerable perhaps in any other circumstances.

In this brilliant career of conquest, Pichegru made great innovations in the art of war. Contrary to the practice of other Generals, he never laid siege to a fortified place that was not necessary to secure his position. Instead of filling the enemy's ditches with the dead bodies of his best troops, he very wisely preferred driving their armies out of the field at much less expense of blood, being confident that the fortresses would afterwards fall of themselves.

He was also the inventor of that system of incessant attack, which is so congenial to the temper of the French nation, and which so completely baffled all the deliberate plans of the coalesced powers. Of this system the value was well understood by the King of Prussia, who, in a letter to the Emperor, expressed himself in the following words:—"The French Generals pursue incomparable plans of operation, which disconcert and defeat all our projects."

The official accounts that Pichegru gave of his victories, in which he seldom mentioned more than the result, formed a singular contrast with the rhodomontade of the National Commissioners, who never failed to call the enemy slaves and cowards; and to make thousands of them *bite the dust*, with the loss of some half-dozen Republicans. A great part of his modesty is, however, supposed to have originated in a fear of exciting the jealousy of Robespierre and his associates. In spite of all this caution, a member of the Mountain party reproached him at Brussels with the greatness of his reputation. "*Citizen Representative*, (answered the General) *I perceive that Aristocracy has only changed hands among us.*"

Pichegru's humanity is no less honourable to him than his achievements in the field. He constantly

resisted the barbarous decree which forbade the giving of quarter to English or Hanoverians, as well as that which directed the execution of the Austrian garrisons of Valenciennes, Condé, Le Quesnoy, and Landrecies, if they did not surrender upon the first summons. This latter he meant to elude by not summoning them till they should be reduced to the last extremity; but he was over-ruled by the National Commissioners, to whom the brave Commandant of Le Quesnoy made answer that he knew of no right one nation had to order another to dishonour itself!

The mercy of the French Generals in sparing the lives of these devoted men, nearly cost them their own.—The Russian Robespierre denounced Pichegru, Moreau, and some others, the very day before his fall, and would certainly have pursued them to the guillotine, if he had not been brought thither himself.

Holland being subdued, Pichegru took the command of the armies upon the Rhine, and made considerable progress in Germany in the following campaign; but at the end of it, the tide of war turned and drove him back upon the French frontiers.—This was the end of his military career.—He was removed from his command, and offered the embassy to Sweden* as a compensation. He thought proper, however, to refuse it, and retired to his native town in such narrow circumstances that he was obliged to sell his horses and camp equipage for his support.

From this poverty, neglect, and privacy, he was rescued by his fellow citizens, by whom he was elected a member of the Legislative Body in the year 1797. When he took his seat, the Council of Five Hundred rose, as a mark of respect, and unanimously appointed him their first president.

In the senate Pichegru was invariably in opposition to the Executive Directory; and continued to abet all the plans that were brought forward to favour the

* On this occasion, he was mentioned "as a man, whom the French nation could present either to its friends, or its enemies."

return of the emigrants and priests, till he was arrested as a principal conspirator in a supposed plot to produce a counter-revolution, and ordered by the Legislative body to be transported without a trial!*

* The following passages are extracted from a letter, written by General Moreau to Barthelemy, the Director, dated "Head-quarters, Strasburgh, 19th Fructidor, 5th year." (5th September, 1797.)

" Citizen-Director,

" You will easily recollect, that during my last journey to Basle, I informed you, that in consequence of the passage of the Rhine, we had taken a packet belonging to General Klingen, containing two or three hundred letters of his correspondents. Many of these are in cyphers, and nobody takes his real name, so that several Frenchmen who correspond with Klingen, Condé, Wickham, D'Enghien, and others, are difficult to be discovered, &c.

" I was at first determined not to publish this correspondence, but perceiving at the head of the parties who at present do so much mischief to our country, a man enjoying, in an eminent situation, the greatest confidence, *a man deeply involved in this correspondence, and destined to perform an important part in the recall of the Pretender*, the object to which it was directed, I thought it my duty to apprize you of this circumstance, *that you might not be the dupe of his famed republicanism*, &c.

" I confess, Citizen-Director, that it is extremely painful to inform you of this treachery, more especially as he whom I now denounce to you was once my friend, and would be so still, were I not now acquainted with his character. *I allude to the Representative of the People, Pichegru*. He was prudent enough to commit nothing to writing. He only communicated verbally with those who were entrusted with the correspondence; they apprized him of the projects entertained, and received his answers. He is there designed by several names; and, among others, by that of *Baptiste*. A chief of Brigade, named Baudoville, was concerned with him, and went by the name of *Coco*.

" Their grand movement was intended to have taken place at the beginning of the FOURTH YEAR. They calculated upon some defeat sustained by my army, which discontented at being defeated, should demand to be placed under the command of their old General, who then was to have acted according to the instructions he had received. He obtained nine hundred *Louis* to defray the expenses of his journey to Paris, at the time of his dismissal. Hence naturally arose the refusal of the embassy to Sweden.

" Nothing but the great confidence which I entertain of your

The guilt of this general has never been fairly ascertained. He is indeed represented as having been bribed by the Prince de Condé to place Louis XVIII. on the throne; and he in return was to have been appointed a Marshal of France, and Governor of Alsace; to have received a large feudal territory and park; a million of livres in ready money; a pension of 200,000 livres a year, and the *terre d'Arbois*, which was to be called *la terre de Pichegru*.

Buonaparte also transmitted from Italy, a paper found in the port folio of M. d'Autraignes, an emigrant in the confidence of Louis XVIII. containing Pichegru's plan for restoring monarchy in France. In this, which was suspected to be written while at the head of the French army in Germany, he offered to cross the Rhine, to hoist the white standard, join the armies of Condé and the Emperor, and march to Paris, which he expected to enter in fourteen days.

This scheme is said to have failed through the jealousy of the Prince de Condé; and, if we are to believe his enemies, Pichegru was attempting, in the Council of Five Hundred, what he had not been able to effect in the army, when he was suddenly arrested on the night of the 4th of September, after some resistance, and soon after shipped for Cayenne.

From this colony he, however, found means to make his escape, and is this moment in London.

At the opening of the last session of Parliament, he was present in the House of Peers while his Majesty was reciting his speech, and, by a strange coincidence, happened to stand on the steps of the throne, close to the Stadtholder whom he had driven from the summit of power. Thus, after the lapse of only a few months, both the conqueror and the conquered found themselves exiles in the same country, and even under the same roof!

patriotism and wisdom could have determined me to give you this information. *The proofs are as clear as day. I doubt, however, whether they be judicial, &c."*

Pichegru is stout, athletic, about five feet six inches high, and well fitted by nature to encounter the fatigues of war. Upon a first acquaintance there is something austere about him; but this roughness wears off after a little intercourse.

Though by no means of a phlegmatic disposition, he is always cool and deliberate in his conduct. The extent and versatility of his talents were fully shewn by his taking the lead in the senate* as well as in the field. In a word, though Pichegru may be deemed by the French to be a great traitor, it cannot be denied that he is a very great man.

FERRAND,

Was a man of talents and virtues. In the *Prairial* insurrection, he presented his breast, scarred with honourable wounds, to the fury of the populace that broke into the Convention, requesting them to spare the sanctuary of the laws.

In this posture he received a deadly stab, and fell at the foot of the tribune, pierced with sabres and bayonets. His bleeding head being cut off, was carried on a pike and placed before the President.

This truly patriotic and courageous deputy was born in the valley of Aure, at the foot of the Pyrenees, where he had left an aged father whom he dearly loved, and a young maiden to whom he was betrothed.

The assassin of Ferrand was rescued on his way to the place of execution, but he was afterwards retaken and put to death.

CHAUMETTE.

Pierre Gasparin Chaumette, the Revolutionary Recorder of Paris, was a native of the town of *Nevers*, in the *Orleanois*. Few men excited more attention in

* Being unacquainted with the forms of discussion, and the minutiae of business, he was assisted while in the Council of Five Hundred, with the advice of Vaublanc.

France for the time, or had a more hateful task to perform, during the tragical part of the Revolution, than Chaumette.

He had been bred to the sea ; but not relishing that kind of life, and failing to obtain preferment, he quitted it, and lived by his *pen*, which he certainly knew how to manage more to his profit than the *compass*. He could, however, speak better, and more fluently, than he could write.

He had also been employed as a librarian and amanuensis to a dignitary of the church, in the diocese of Nivernois ; but, at the commencement of the troubles in France, was actually a clerk to an attorney, and occasionally wrote essays for the newspapers, as well as trifles for the stage. He was one of the chief disciples of Camille Desmoulins, and among the first who wore the tri-coloured cockade in their hats, just before the taking of the Bastile.

He greatly out-ran his own apostle, in zeal for the new faith ; for when Camille was composing the first number of his *Vieux Cordelier*, with the hope of tranquillising the overheated imaginations of the leaders of democracy, and tempering the public rage against the real or supposed enemies of the new order of things, Chaumette was still further inflaming and directing their vengeance against particular individuals.

It was Chaumette who instigated the Commune of Paris to demand the trial of the Queen ; and he became one of the committee that prepared the charges, and regulated the evidence against that ill-fated woman. He was a witness too against her, at the Revolutionary Tribunal, and undertook to reprimand M. La Tour Dupin, formerly minister at war under Louis XVI. for not exposing those anecdotes of Antoinette's conduct, which, it was insisted on, he was privy to.

The most odious part of this man's character, as to his charge against this unfortunate Queen, was a pretended incestuous *penchant* towards her infant son, till then confined with her in the Temple. This insinuation, for it could be called no more, shocked the

whole court and auditory, especially the female part of it, and immediately sunk the accuser in the popular opinion. Even Robespierre himself, under whose auspices he was believed to act, grew outrageous when he was told of this article, infinitely more absurd than all the rest; and it is not denied, even by her bitterest enemies, that that culpable and lost Princess was murdered, under the form of a revolutionary trial. Whatever might have been the amount of her errors, had they been fairly enumerated or weighed, and whatever punishment might have been pronounced on them, the fact is, that nothing like justice was done her in that mock ceremony.

No sooner was the tyrant informed that the *Procureur of the Commune* had exhibited a charge of so unnatural a complexion against the unhappy prisoner, than he exclaimed "The fool! was it not enough that he had proved her a *Messalina*; but must he make an *Agrippina* of her too?" Robespierre instantly perceived, that this abominable conduct of Chaumette would hurt the credit of the cause; on which account he never forgave him, though he allowed his zeal to continue to operate on inferior objects, till it at length whelmed himself in ruin. Chaumette had credit now with none but the very *scum* of the revolution; and such recrementitious matter will always be thrown off in national ebullitions of this kind.

Although Robespierre was at this time in the very zenith of his power, yet Chaumette moved such a proposition in the full commune, as gave reason to many to believe, that he would set up as his rival in the city. This daring motion was to unite all the heads of the forty-eight sections of Paris in one council; a measure that would have superceded the force of the legislature itself, if not its authority. This was a project, conceived in common with the famous Hebert, Momoro, and Mazuel, and would have been aided in its execution by the daring Ronfin, who at that time commanded a body of the (*armée révolutionnaire*) revolutionary army.

How far Robespierre was apprized of, or approved the scheme, does not appear; many shrewd observers of what was passing, seemed satisfied that it was to have been only a prelude to "the swelling act" which was to follow, when the hero of the piece was to have been in full play.

The majority of the Convention saw through the veil which covered the workings of the plot, and anticipated their own danger, should it be carried into effect. They, therefore, without loss of time, annulled the proceedings, and declared all to be rebels who should persist therein. Chaumette appeared to put a good face on this correction. He told the Commune, on its next meeting, that his proposition must be relinquished; for the Convention, with a paternal, though severe voice, had stamped with nullity their former resolution, and that it became them, like dutiful children, to submit. Hebert, Momoro, and Mazuel, were soon after accused as traitors, imprisoned, tried, and executed; but Chaumette survived a short time longer, as his enemies thought it safer to wear away by degrees the remaining popular partiality for him, before he should be struck at.

He was taken up, however, on the 26th of March, 1794, under a charge of conspiring, with the foregoing men, against the government, and guillotined on the 13th of April following, without the smallest effort, on the part of Robespierre, to save him.

He confessed, at the place of execution, that the Revolution had inflamed his imagination, and at times intoxicated his brain, from the too free gratification of his vengeance, for the personal injuries he had received. He said, also, that three instances had come to light, of his aristocratic and inveterate enemies attempting his life; and that a desire of reprisal, in which he conceived the safety of the commonwealth in some measure involved, made him seek all occasions for arrogating power; but that he never cherished an idea of possessing any permanent authority, not even of a secondary or subordinate nature.

LANJUINAIS,

Previously to the Revolution, was an advocate of very distinguished reputation at Rennes, in Brittany, and he was appointed by this Province, in 1789, a Deputy to the States-General.

Soon after the meeting of that body, he projected the plan of the *Breton*, since known under the name of the Jacobin Club, and by this single act, may be said to have been the remote cause of all those eventful transactions which have since agitated France, and all Europe. He took the idea of such an institution from a similar society, held during a former convocation of the States-General, in the reign of Henry III. and from its meeting under a *portico* of the royal palace of Blois, called *the Portico of the Bretons*. This club of Lanjuinais, was at first called the *Breton Club*, but on the removal of the National Assembly to Paris, it assumed the name of the *Jacobin Club*, from its meetings being held in a convent of the Dominican Friars, called after the Saint of that name.

On the dissolution of the National Assembly, Lanjuinais retired to Rennes; but on the calling of the National Convention, he was appointed a deputy to it. In this turbulent body, wherein to appear conspicuous, more boldness and enthusiasm were requisite than philosophy and equanimity, he remained inactive till the proscription of the Brissotins. Conceiving that from this period the representatives would be controlled by the Parisian cut-throats, he, with seventy-two others, united in a strong protest. A decree of accusation was, in consequence, passed against them, and those who scorned to fly, of which Lanjuinais was one, were committed to prison. It is well known that, after the overthrow of Robespierre, they were all restored to their seats in the legislature.

His sufferings tended only to increase the esteem in which he was before held by his colleagues; till the dissolution of the Convention, therefore, he was considered as one of the leading members. He was first

chosen President, afterwards voted into the Committee of Legislation, which was appointed for the purpose of forming a new Republican Constitution, and has always been considered as one of the most able, upright, and active of the French legislators.

Lanjuinais continued to sit in the new assembly, as a member of the Council of Ancients, and proved the constant censor of the Council of Five Hundred, when any law was proposed, inconsistent with principles of justice and public utility. He firmly opposed the decree for sequestrating the estates of the relations of emigrants, and his speech contained the following laudable sentiment: "*Know, my countrymen (said he), that the eyes of all Europe are fixed upon us. Let us prove ourselves just, and demonstrate, that in the course of the Revolution, we have been always led away by error, and never by crime.*"

On the renewal of the last third, it was the lot of Lanjuinais, to return to the station of a private citizen. He carried with him the esteem of all rational Republicans. His present residence is at Rennes, in a modest and virtuous obscurity, consistent with his philosophical character. Before the detection of the late conspiracy, he was one of those Republicans who deprecated the dangers to which his country was reduced, by the known existence of traitors in the two councils, and who observed with sorrow, the countenance given to *royalism* and *fanaticism*.

Lanjuinais is about sixty years of age, of a middle size, very thin visage, and not handsome. He is reputed to be a firm believer in the tenets of Christianity; and on all occasions has shown himself the friend of religious toleration.

M. DE LA TUDE.

This extraordinary man, a noble by birth, and an officer by profession, was imprisoned for a great number of years in the Bastille, the dungeons of Vincennes, and the Bicetre, by order of Madame de Pompadour, the

mistress of Louis XV. whom, unluckily, he had offended. By means of a rope-ladder, four hundred feet in length, with two hundred steps or cross-bands, all constructed out of shirts and stockings, carefully unravelled for that purpose, he and his companion, d'Alegre, found means to escape from one of the towers of the Bastile.

At Amsterdam he was claimed by the French Ambassador, conducted in chains to Paris, and indulged, or rather punished, with the sight of his former companion, whom he found raving-mad in the hospital for lunatics, at Charenton !

After remaining forty months in his old apartment in the Bastile, he learned by means of a piece of paper pasted on a window in *la rue de St. Antoine*, that the Marchioness was no more ; but as he refused to disclose how he came by this intelligence, he was remanded by M. de Sartines, then *Lieutenant de Police*, to the dungeon at Vincennes, whence he escaped, by knocking down two centinels. Being again taken, he was committed to a gloomy cell in the *Bicetre* ; whence he was at length extricated by the kindness of a charitable lady, called Madame le Gros, who became surety for his good behaviour, and actually maintained him out of her little income.

The Memoirs of Henry Mafers de la Tude, containing an account of his confinement during *thirty-five* years in the state prisons of France, were published in 1788, and made a great noise throughout all Europe, as they *verified* every thing asserted relative to the horrid despotism that had prevailed, and might at any future time be renewed in that kingdom.

MESDEMOISELLES DE FERNIGS.

These two young heroines were the daughters of a quarter-master of cavalry ; and by accompanying the troops in their excursions, at the beginning of the war, attained a certain degree of attachment to military exploits, and even an enthusiasm against the com-

mon enemy. Unlike the "Maid of Orleans," they were dressed in female attire, and pretended neither to prophecy nor to revelation; but they headed the French troops in 1791, with the same boldness that the martial female alluded to, was accustomed to do, two centuries before.

Dumourier, who never let slip any occasion of inspiring his army with confidence, invited these ladies to the camp at Maulde; and made such a flattering report to the Convention, of their modesty, intrepidity, and good conduct, that they received a house, and an adjoining piece of land, as a present from the Republic.

On the defection of this General, preferring gratitude to duty, and personal attachment to the love of their country, they both took part with him, and were outlawed.

It is not a little remarkable, that this hoary-headed warrior, although old enough to be the *grandfather* of most of our *generals*, has yet found means to attach a great number of ladies to him; some young and handsome, and some old, but accomplished.

ANACHARSIS CLOOTS,*

Was born in Cleves. Although a Prussian, a Baron, and a man of fortune, he seems to have imbibed, while yet a boy, a taste for liberty: and, indeed, notwithstanding his singularities and extravagancies, he never appears to have belied his original opinions, although his conduct frequently threw an air of ridicule over them. At an early period of life, he travelled into all the different countries of Europe; and being rich, noble, and sprightly, he was every where received with distinguished marks of attention.

While in England, he frequently visited Mr. Burke, to whom he was introduced by means of letters from some very learned and respectable men on the continent.

* His baptismal name was *Jean Baptiste*: he adopted that of Anacharsis.

The interview between the Philosopher of Beaconsfield, and the "Orator of the Human Race," will be deemed less whimsical, perhaps, than may be at first imagined; when it is known, that Mr. Burke, at the period alluded to, was neither the pensioner nor the pander of royalty, but upheld a lofty character for independence, and possessed some of those very singularities so conspicuous in his friend Anacharsis.

M. Cloots was not only the nephew of a man of letters,* but actually a man of letters himself. In 1792, he published a small octavo volume, entitled, "*La Republique Universelle, ou Adresse aux Tyrannicides*;" which was printed at Paris, in "the fourth year of the Redemption," and had "*Veritas atque Libertas*," by way of motto. Voltaire having signed himself the Representative of Philosophers, the author pretends to be "the Representative of the Oppressed;" and claims an "universal apostleship for the gratuitous defence of the millions of slaves, who groan from one pole to the other." In this tract he asserts, that nations are not to be delivered by the blade of a poinard, but by the rays of truth—"Steel can kill only the tyrant, but tyranny itself may be destroyed by knowledge."

The following is a speech delivered by Anacharsis, at the bar of the Legislative Assembly, to which he had conducted a deputation of Dutch, Spaniards, Italians, Germans, Americans, and Asiatics, a little before the grand confederation—

"Legislators!

"The awe-inspiring standards of the French empire are about to be displayed on the 14th of July, in the Field of Mars, the same place where *Julian trampled all prejudices under foot*! This civic solemnity will not only be the festival of the French people, but that of the human race. The trumpet, which proclaims

* Cornelius Pauw, author of many learned works, particularly "*Recherches Philosophiques sur les Americains, ou Mémoires intéressans pour servir à l'Histoire de l'Espèce Humaine*" A. Berlin, M,DCC,LXXI,

the resurrection of a great empire, has resounded to the four corners of the world : and the joyful songs of a chorus of twenty-five millions of freemen have awakened the nations buried in a long slavery. The wisdom of your decrees, and the union of the children of France, that ravishing picture of human felicity, afford bitter anxiety to despots, and just hopes to the enslaved.

“ We have also conceived a great thought ; and shall we venture to say, that it will complete the triumphs of this glorious day ? A number of foreigners, assembled from all the different corners of the earth, ask leave to range themselves in the middle of the Field of Mars ; and the cap of Liberty, which they will elevate with transport, shall be the pledge of the approaching deliverance of their unhappy fellow-citizens.

“ The triumphant generals of ancient Rome dragged conquered nations at their chariot-wheels ; but you, exhibiting a noble contrast, behold freemen in your train, whose native countries, at this moment in chains, will become one day free also, by the influence of your unshaken courage, and your philosophical laws.

“ No embassy was ever so sacred ; our letters of credit are not written upon parchment ; our mission is engraven in everlasting characters in the hearts of all men ; and, thanks to the authors of the DECLARATION OF RIGHTS, these characters will be no longer unintelligible to tyrants.

“ You have recognized the great truth, that all sovereignty resides in the people. Now the people are every where under the yoke of dictators, who call themselves sovereigns, in despite of your principles. Dictatorship may be usurped, but sovereignty is inviolable ; and the ambassadors of tyrants would not confer so much honour on your august festival as we, whose mission is tacitly owned by our countrymen—by the sovereign people, under oppression.

“ What a lesson for despots ! what a consolation to

unfortunate nations ! when we shall inform them, that the first people of Europe has given the signal for the happiness of mankind in both hemispheres.

“ We shall now retire, and wait in respectful silence for the result of your deliberations on the petition, dictated to us by the enthusiasm for universal liberty.”*

Cloots was a great advocate for one common language ; and so well convinced of the necessity of one universal government, that he deemed two suns above one horizon, or a pair of gods in heaven, not more absurd than two separate nations upon earth !

He was accustomed to treat a name revered by all *Christians*, as that of an impostor ; and so bitter was this extraordinary enmity, that he is said to have declared himself the personal enemy of J—— C—— !

Anacharsis, a Prussian by birth, a Frenchman by adoption, and a citizen of the world by choice, at last found means to become a member of the National Convention. On the great question respecting the death of the King, he voted in the affirmative ; and with the same breath passed sentence on the head of the house of Brandenburg, and Louis XVI.—“ *Et*

* This motley embassy, if we are to believe some, consisted of very respectable persons, natives of the countries of which they assumed the representation. On the other hand, if we are to credit others, they were actually *clothed* and *paid* for that purpose. The following passages contains the sentiments of a Deputy on this subject :

“ Cette séance étoit réservée pour des événemens extraordinaires. Dès l'ouverture on vit se présenter des Députés de toutes les nations du monde dans le costume de leur *prétendue patrie*, venant féliciter l'Assemblée Nationale sur l'heureux succès de ses travaux ; et ces *prétendus* ambassadeurs donc aucun peut-être n'avoit vu le pays qu'il disoit représenter, *n'étoient que des gens qu'on avoit payés pour jouer ce rôle.*

“ L'un d'eux s'étant trompé de logement & de nom, a été demander à M. le Marquis de Biencourt, Député de Gueret, le salaire de cette journée. Comment les inventeurs de ces fraudes prétendues pieuses n'ont-ils pas senti qu'ils insultoient ainsi de la manière la plus outrageante & a plus criminelle, la dignité de l'Assemblée Nationale.”

je condamne pareillement à mort l'infame Frederick Gillaume !"

Soon after this he was implicated in the affair of *Pere Duchesne*, arrested, sent to prison, and (as *Robespierre* never forgave) he was put to death on the 24th of March, 1794. It is but justice to state, that he continued faithful to his principles, and that he appears to have died innocent. It is not a little singular, that he insisted upon being the last person executed that day, in order to have an opportunity of infilling certain principles into the mind of each of his fellow-sufferers, by means of a short harangue, which he pronounced as the fatal guillotine was about to descend on his neck.

It is, on the whole, perhaps, a misfortune to the cause of liberty, that such a man should have declared himself among its assertors.

PASTORET,

Both *thought* and *wrote* before the Revolution. In 1788, he published a work entitled "*Moise considere comme Legislatateur & comme Moraliste*," by way of supplement to his comparison between Zoroaster, Confucius, and Mahomet, which conferred some celebrity on his talents, and breathed throughout a spirit of liberty and investigation.

Such works as these at length taught the people to *think* also, and they began to be published in great plenty. Even in 1787, M. Mathon de la Cour, a member of the Academy of Lyons and Villefranche, obtained the prize from the Academy of Chalons-sur-Marne, for his "*Discours sur les meilleurs Moyens de faire naitre, et d'encourager le Patriotisme dans une Monarchie*," in which he ably discriminates between patriotism and the love of one's country.— "Patriotism, more rare," says he, "because it is more disinterested, than the love of our country, is an ardent desire of serving our compatriots, and of contributing to their welfare, happiness, and security."

This desire, noble in itself, is such as is felt by the noble and virtuous ; whilst the most selfish wretch loves his country only as it concerns his own welfare, the true patriot is always ready to sacrifice to it, not only his dearest interests, but even his life."

This magical word *patriotism*, which began to be known and proclaimed throughout France, contained within it the *embrio* of liberty ; and Pastoret, Condorcet, and Brissot, but developed the germ, planted indeed by the hand of nature in the human heart, and watered by the hands of Rousseau and Voltaire.

On the dissolution of the States General, Pastoret was elected a Deputy to the Legislative body, of which he had the honour to be elected first President, on its meeting, which took place on the 1st of October, 1791 ; but he soon after retired in disgust. He however was returned a member to the succeeding Assembly, and for a time acquired great applause by his liberality and zeal, having, among other things, attempted a reform in the penal code, and proposed some salutary regulations respecting the trial by jury, so far as the intention, or what we in our courts term the *quo animo*, is concerned. He also reproached the Directory, for their conduct in respect to the Commissioners of Louis XVIII. and denied with equal spirit and truth, that they had any right to try them by military law.

Soon after this he became one of the most strenuous opposers of the present government ; contended on popular grounds for a strict administration of the constitution, and declared himself ready to watch over and withstand the encroachments of a Directory, with as much jealousy and vigour as those of a King. On the 2d of Messidor, 5th year, while others were condemning the treaty between England and America, as unfaithful on the part of the latter power, to her engagements with France, he strenuously defended it, in all its parts and provisions ; a circumstance which excited the surprise of many of his colleagues, and exposed him to much obloquy and suspicion.

During the disputes with the sections about the re-election of the *two-thirds*, which he is supposed to have fomented, Pastoret, in consequence of his opinions, was returned a deputy for Paris, in the Council of Five Hundred. Immediately after his election he joined the party of Pichegru, Camille, Jourdan, Boissy d'Anglas, &c. His conduct now neither astonished his friends nor his enemies, although violent and imprudent to the last degree. He became a warm advocate for the return of the emigrants, and hinted more than once at the injustice of confiscating their estates. He thwarted every measure for general defence, and at length he and his friends not only out-voted the Republicans, but actually forced them to abandon the Assembly.

At length a new revolution took place, and his name was included in the famous decree of transportation, which passed September 4th, 1797; but he found means to escape to Switzerland, and thus prevented a voyage to Cayenne.

Pastoret has been looked upon as an *Aristocrat* for some years past, and his reproaches against Condorcet for writing in a newspaper dedicated to liberty (*Le Journal de Paris*) was never forgotten by the patriots of 1789. It is but just, however, to remark, that his conduct has always been open, his language candid, his sentiments liberal, and that he has been a constant advocate for *morals*, which he justly considers the best support of every government, more especially a Republican one.

ST. HURUGE

Was a Marquis, and a man of fortune; but neither his title nor estates exempted him from the most cruel persecution under the old government of France. He was unlucky enough to have a handsome wife, who happened to be admired by the Baron de B. then Minister of Police: this was more than sufficient to ruin one of the provincial *noblesse*, dissipated and dissolute

as he was, and, what was infinitely worse, *unprotected* at court ! The process was short : *Madame la Marquise* is said to have been seduced into the arms of the opulent, powerful, and amorous minister ; and her husband, under pretence of insanity, confined at Charenton !

On being liberated, he instantly repaired to England, and lived in London during 1777 and 1778, in great distress. He is still remembered at the Stratford Coffee-house, on account of his bad English, his amazingly good appetite, and his rooted but natural aversion to a government that had connived at such flagrant oppression.

Having found means to repair to Italy, he was well received at Naples by the French Ambassador, and the native nobility, notwithstanding his manners, dress, and address appertained less to the *noblesse* than the *Lazzaroni*.

On the Revolution, he returned to Paris, and glutted his revenge at the execution of the King, Queen, and most of the powerful nobles, whom he considered as his persecutors. He is even said to have been active in the massacres of the prisoners, both in the capital and at Versailles : this procured him the appellation of *Le Petit Septembreur*.*

So early as 1789, he became one of the most energetic, if not the most eloquent orators, in the circles of the *Palais Royal*, but his clumsy figure and vulgar phraseology prevented him from being so successful as Camille Desmoulins and others ; for instead of obtaining the applauses, he often exposed himself to the laughter of the crowd.

It was he who, in April 1791, a few days after the

* The following is the character of this man, as given by M. de Guillermey, a noble like himself, but of a different party :

“ Le Marquis de S'Huruges, espèce de fou, connu dans sa province par les vexations qu'il a exercées contre ces vassaux, mais appelé aujourd'hui patriote ainsi que beaucoup de gens de même trempe, étoit alors l'instrument dont on se servoit pour émeuter le Palais Royal.”

appearance of the apostolic bull, breathing an invitation to a civil war, set fire to the effigy of the Pope, adorned with the tiara and pontifical robe, in the garden of the Duke of Orleans. Previously to this, the youth of the capital had assembled, and carried the venerable figure in mock triumph through the city, after which it was suspended to the branch of a tree, in the gardens of the *Palais Royal*. St. Huruge was the person selected to make the *polemical* speech, before the ludicrous ceremony of committing the *Episcus Episcoporum* to the flames. Sig. Luigi de Pio, formerly in the service of his Sicilian Majesty, is said to have suggested some hints to him on this subject. Being a man of research, he was aware that when Luther burnt the *DECRETALS*, in the square of Wittemburg, in Saxony, he used the following remarkable words—“*Quia tu conturbasti sacra domini ideo te conturbet ignis æternus;*” and he recommended to the *ci-devant* Marquis, to confine his speech, to a mere paraphrase of this sentence: but there, as usual, he failed, and instead of laughing at the expense of the Pope, as was expected, the populace turned all their ridicule against the orator.

The frenzy of St. Huruge was at its full height, on the appearance of the celebrated manifesto, issued by the Duke of Brunswick, and it must be acknowledged that on this occasion he was of the utmost service to his country, by helping to give a strong impulsion to the public mind: for although his provincial eloquence had no effect on the minds of men of taste or education, it was admirably suited for the *Fauxbourg St. Antoine*, which was at this period the scene of his exertions.

He also took an active part in the Revolution of the 10th of August, at which period he constantly associated with Legendre, Santerre, and other leaders in that memorable event.

In the succeeding contentions, he *trimmed* according to the success or defeat of the different factions. During the *monarchy* of Robespierre, he was one of his creatures; on his condemnation, one of his revi-

lers; on his execution, the bitterest of his enemies. All the English, imprisoned by the orders of the *dictator*, were well acquainted with him; for he visited them daily, and was accustomed to affright the timid and appal the bold, by his malignant predictions. After the *Thermidorean* Revolution, they in their turn threatened him with vengeance. In short, he was soon after included in the list of emigrants!

It was the persecution experienced by the talkative, lascivious, insignificant *Marquis*, that converted him into a savage. Injustice generally begets hypocrisy, and not unfrequently cruelty; wrong is urged in retaliation for wrong. Thus, too, while Despotism is knotting her whips, arranging her chains, and sharpening her axes, Anarchy, the daughter of Licentiousness, but often also the mother of Liberty, hovers around, busied in preparing the scorpions of revenge, and whetting the sword of desolation!

CHABOT.

François Chabot was born at St. Deniez-Dol, in the Department of Avignon, in 1759; appointed a Deputy to the Convention in 1793; and executed at Paris on the 5th of April 1794, in consequence of being implicated in a supposed conspiracy with Danton.

He was a friar in his youth; a hypocrite in his manhood; but, like the French in general, who die, perhaps, better than they live—he suffered with the firmness of a hero. In allusion to his dress, he was here termed, by a familiar alliteration, the *shabby Chabot*. One of the best judges in Europe speaks of him thus—*“Chabot ne dementit point la poltronnerie d'un pretre, ni l'hypocrisie d'un capucin.”*

In justice to the *ci-devant* capuchin, it is, however, necessary to observe, that although he perished unlamented, he was considered *innocent* of the ridiculous charges exhibited against him.*

* In one of these he was accused of taking money from a fo-

DUMONT OF GENOA,

A republican by birth, was the editor of a newspaper, termed "*Le Republicain*." It was published on the King's flight to Varennes, and considered, on account of the title, as a *phenomenon*.

At that period there were but eight republicans in France—I mean eight *native* citizens! Here follow the names of four of them: Petion, Mayor of Paris; Condorcet, so celebrated for his attainments in the sciences; Brissot, who died in an honourable poverty, a martyr to his principles; and Du Chatelet,* whom Louis XVI. in vain endeavoured to convert by all the blandishments of royal favour.

Robespierre, on being entrusted with their secret design, asked, with a sneer—" *Ce que c'etoit qu'une republique?*"

LACLOS,

A man of extraordinary talents, great vices, and the author of *Les Liaisons dangereuses*, was the bosom friend and constant companion of M. d'Egalite, the *ci-devant* Duke of Orleans.

On the flight of the King, he repaired to the society of the Jacobins, and endeavoured to procure a petition from them, requesting the National Assembly to dethrone Louis, and declare Philip *constitutional* Monarch of France.

reign court, but, in a letter to the Convention, he victoriously refuted the charge of corruption, by an assertion never disproved nor even denied, that he had apprized two members of the Committee of Public Safety of a transaction, in which he had participated from no other motive than to betray the corruptors. The secret negotiation here alluded implicated two Dutch bankers, and at length brought them also to the scaffold.

† Du Chatelet was a man of letters, and also a Lieutenant-Colonel in the army. On being wounded on the frontiers, he was told that one of the royal litters was at his service, but he rejected the offer with indignation, and insisted on being carried to the hospital with such of his fellow soldiers as had shared the same fate.

Being defeated in this attempt by Brissot, he tried to gain over the people, whom he had assembled for that purpose: and it was this circumstance that induced Bailly, then Mayor of Paris, to proclaim martial law, and La Fayette to give orders, for what has ever since been termed the massacre of the *Champ de Mars*.

The misfortunes of the house of Orleans may be traced to the crooked politics of this man: And such was his ascendancy over the mind of Philip Egalite, that he was entrusted with all, and is said to have projected many of his schemes of aggrandisement.

M. DEGRAVE,

A Lieutenant-Colonel in the army, was the Minister at War, when Roland presided over the home department. The most accomplished woman that France has, perhaps, ever produced, describes him “as a little man in every sense of the word; for Nature having formed him gentle and timid, his prejudices tempting him to be lofty, and his heart inspiring him with the desire of being amiable, by an endeavour to reconcile all these, he became in reality, nothing!”

I have heard a very different character of the ex-minister; from a good judge of mankind; and however much I may be inclined to *defer* to the discrimination of the amiable and unfortunate Madame Roland, there is some reason to suppose, that her opinion respecting this gentleman was somewhat tinged by party prejudice.

M. Degrave lives in the neighbourhood of Kensington; and consoles himself, amidst his misfortunes, by means of his books.—It is but justice to say, that the French bear calamity with a fortitude truly heroic; if they are apt to triumph, perhaps, a little too much in prosperity, they evince a noble constancy in adversity, that would have reflected honour on the stoics of ancient times!

ST. JUST.

The name of this man, once so terrible, is still odious in France; and notwithstanding his exertions may have been of use to his country during one or two critical periods, yet, like his friend Robespierre, he has been eminently disserviceable to the cause of liberty.

Louis Leon de St. Just, was still very young at the epoch of the Revolution? but such was the opinion entertained of his learning and talents, that he was nominated an elector for the department of L'Aisne, of which he was also a native. In 1791, he distinguished himself by a work entitled "*Esprit de la Revolution et de la Constitution de France*," in which he made use of the grossest flattery towards a man then aspiring to the supreme power; in one passage in particular he addresses him thus: "You whom I only know, as I do God—by his miracles!"

Soon after this he was appointed a Deputy to the National Convention, for the department of *la Nièvre*, and as may be easily imagined, instantly joined the party of the *Mountain*.

During the trial of Louis XVI. he made a very celebrated speech on the 13th of November, 1792, in the course of which he inculcated the novel and extraordinary maxim, that it was criminal to be a king—"On ne peut point regner innocemment."

Notwithstanding this, St. Just had hitherto maintained the reputation of virtue, but his conduct towards *the Gironde*, and also during his mission in the South, rendered his name detestable. After this period, he was usually termed *l'ame damnee de Robespierre*.

He now became a member of the sanguinary Committee of Public Safety, and acted but too conspicuous a part during the reign of terror. His history is therefore the history of horrors.

Not content with the sacrifice of the Brissotins, it was he who delivered in the reports that sent Ana-

charfis Cloots, Herault, Phillippaux, and all the Dantonists* to the scaffold.

While along with the Army of the North, he was attended by (*la guillotine ambulante*) a guillotine mounted on wheels, that followed the troops.

From the head-quarters of the army of the Rhine, he boasted in one of his dispatches, that two young men (Hoche and himself) had baffled the veteran General Wurmser, and the consummate Statesman Kaunitz, and preserved Strasbourg, and all Alsace, to the Republic. These, it must be allowed, were noble exploits, and it is the *means*, not the *end*, that the most fastidious enemy would condemn.†

Two emigrants have been at great pains to depict St. Just in the blackest colours. Mallet du Pan asserts, that he not only adopted, but actually acted upon the abominable principle, that audacity produces success, and every crime is justified by the event, provided it is prosperous. "Osez?" he was accustomed to exclaim, "Osez! viola le secret de tous nos succès." General Danican, not content with this outrage to morals, adds an outrage to humanity, for he pretends, that he gave orders to erect a manufactory at Meudon, in order to tan, during the night, the skins of the persons who suffered by the guillotine, for the purpose of supplying the army with boots and shoes! But with so many real crimes, it is needless to have recourse to fictitious ones.

More than one of his speeches in the Convention have subjected him to the imputation of being an

* The great crime alledged against these last was *corruption*.

"Ce sont les guinées de Pitt, exclaimed he, "qui payent les orgies que ces nouveaux Catalinas font au Palais Royal.—C'est la qu'on fait les repas à cent écus par tête. Et non contents des biens dont la révolution les comble, il leur faut la revolte pour se procurer les vœux de Phœbe."

† The following is said to be part of the dispatch alluded to above:

"Le canon par devant, la guillotine par derriere, faire faire des prodiges aux nouveaux republicains!—Nous t'adorons *sainte guillotine*, c'est toi qui nous assure le regne de la liberté," &c.

advocate for an equal distribution of every species of property; and hence "le niveau de St. Just" was aptly compared to the bed of Procrustes. It is well known, that he often spoke openly in favour of an agrarian law, or the equal distribution of land; and among his papers was found a note (written however by another hand), in which it was laid down as a maxim, "that a revolutionist should be ready to march with his feet steeped in blood and tears."

When the *Thermidorean crisis* took place, St. Just entered the Assembly, and commenced an artful and insidious speech relative to the rumours about a division among the Members of the Government. It was then that Tallien, afraid of his popular talents, interrupted him, and poured forth a most bitter invective against his conduct, which prevented him from resuming the subject of his discourse, although he never quitted the *tribune*, not even when the decree of accusation was about to be launched against him. His powers of utterance appeared, however, to be interdicted during this awful scene, and his countenance changed frequently as the danger approached. He was now even seen to shed tears, although on a former occasion he had exhibited great personal courage, by placing himself at the head of the army, and exposing himself to the heat of an action, during an engagement with the combined powers.

No sooner was the fatal decree pronounced than he was arrested, and carried from the hall of the Convention to the Scotch College, then converted into a prison, and not to the Luxembourg, along with Robespierre, Couthon, and the rest of his associates. He was however rescued in about six hours after, and conveyed in triumph to the *Commune*, where he was constituted "Chief of the Executive Committee," and measures were instantly taken to put all the authors of the new revolution to death.

His opponents, however, proved victorious, and he was seized a second time, and sent in a cart to the guillotine. While on the way thither, he seemed to

have recovered a wonderful degree of *sang-froid*, and appeared but little affected by the maledictions of an immense crowd, who were taught to believe that all their miseries had originated in his crimes, and those of his accomplices.

The writer of this article can testify, that the sight of the axe excited no terrors in the face of this fierce and haughty *Triumvir*, for he submitted to his fate with a firmness which could only have been expected from an eminently virtuous man, prepared to suffer in a good cause, and therefore armed with a conscience unacquainted with remorse.

Thus perished, by the hand of the executioner, the Deputy St. Just, on the 10th Thermidor (28th July) 1794, and in the 28th year of his age. The square* where he suffered had often been the scene of his own atrocities. It was there that his bloody proscriptions were literally executed, according to the tenor of his barbarous decrees; it was there that his enemies were immolated, in order to assuage his vengeance or gratify his ambition; and it was there also, by a just retribution, that a period was at last put to his own life and crimes!

M. DE LA ROCHEFOUCAULD LIANCOURT.

This nobleman, known formerly by the title of the Duc de Liancourt, although he does not now claim it, even by courtesy, for he is a modest, as well as a good man, was one of the members of the States-General, and joined the majority of the clergy, and the minority of the nobles, when they met—for they never united with the *tiers-etat* or Commons. He was also president of the club of 1789.

Notwithstanding this, the Duke was personally attached to the King;† and it was he who, at one

* *La Place de la Revolution.*

† It has been insinuated by M. Bertrand, in a work lately published in this country, that he became a patriot, in order to betray the patriots to the king, with whom he kept up a secret correspondence; but no sooner was M. de la R. Liancourt in

o'clock of the morning of the 15th of July 1789, first informed Louis XVI. of the capture of the Bastile ! His Majesty was absolutely ignorant of the event, when his ministers left him, at eleven o'clock on the preceding evening : they carefully concealed it (for it is ridiculous to suppose them unacquainted with so important a transaction) from the deluded Monarch. The Duke having learned the particulars, by means of two Deputies who had been present, instantly flew from the Assembly to the palace ; and, entering the privy-chamber, disclosed the fatal secret to the King. "*Qu'ai-je donc fait pour que le peuple se leve contre moi ?*" dit-il avec une douleur profonde mais calme. "*Qu'il lise avec moi dans ma conscience, & il verra si jamais il a eu un meilleur ami, si depuis que j'ai le droit de m'occuper de son bonheur, mon coeur a jamais eu une autre pensee.*"

This would have done great honour to his Majesty's heart, were it not suspected that he had prepared an army, at this very moment, under M. de Broglio, on purpose to chastise the Parisians, and stifle the infant cry of Liberty.

On being brought back prisoner, after his flight to Varennes, he exclaimed, in the same strain, to the Duke—" *Ah ! si j'eus atteint le but de mon voyage, le peuple auroit vu si je meritois ses soupçons & son injustice !*"

M. de la Rochefoucauld Liancourt soon after left France, and was lucky enough to arrive safe in England. Preferring the country to the capital, he took up his residence at Bury St. Edmund's, in Suffolk ; but he soon after repaired to America, where a publication of his has appeared, on the improvement of the Criminal Code of Pennsylvania.

In this tract, he points out the difference between mild and sanguinary laws, by a reference to the actual practice of Pennsylvania, in consequence of which the number of offenders has been lessened full one half !

formed of this, than he disavowed the charge, in a letter published in a newspaper on the Continent.

No whips, or chains are to be seen there. Great crimes are punished with a salutary severity; petty *political* misdemeanors are not expiated by *seclusion* from society; hard labour becomes the just portion of the malefactor or the vagabond, and the *discipline of the house of correction* is administered to these alone.

When Louis XVI. like our Charles I. was doomed to undergo a public trial, the Duke addressed a letter to Barrere, then President of the Assembly, dated November 19th, in which he offered to become his defender, at the bar of the National Tribunal. On the 20th of December 1792, he also wrote a letter to M. Malesherbes, who had been chosen by Louis as his advocate, in which he endeavoured to depict his character as that of an amiable and philanthropic sovereign; exclaiming at the same time—“*Ah ! si la sacrifice de ma vie est utile au bonheur de la France, j’y suis prepare !*”

The truth is, that the haughty Henrietta Maria, consort of Charles I. and the unfortunate Maria Antoinette, the partner not only of the bed, but the *occupier* of the throne of Louis XVI. occasioned the catastrophe of both.

Louis was not unacquainted with his own foibles; for the Duc de Liancourt has seen a MS. in his Majesty’s hand-writing, in which he freely depicted his own character, and particularised his good qualities, not omitting even his faults; in which he recounted the obstacles he had met with, and endeavoured to surmount, in his own disposition; the views with which he ascended the throne; the plans he had resisted; those he was enabled to execute, and those he did not dare to undertake.

To such a disposition, had he either added fortitude, or been lucky enough to have been surrounded by a prudent consort and virtuous counsellors, he might have perhaps rivalled the only two good Princes of his family, Henry IV. and Louis XII.

M. de la Rochefoucauld Liancourt, after a short residence in America, has returned to Europe, and now resides at Hamburg.

BOISSY D'ANGLAS.

The Representative Boissy d'Anglas, was one of the order of the *ci-devant* noblesse, and voted uniformly with that patriotic minority of the nobles which acted in union and concert with the *tiers-etat*. His reputation began to rise considerably, about the time when the first National Assembly was verging to its close, in consequence of his eloquent and spirited observations on Calonne's work—"On the Present and Future State of France," and his masterly reply to a publication of the celebrated Raynal.

Under the government of Robespierre and Danton, Boissy made no very prominent figure, being thrown, as it were, into the back-ground of the picture. Ever since the 9th of Thermidor, however, he has had occasion to act grand and important parts. His political and economical Reports, presented at intervals to the Convention, in the name of the Committee of Public Safety, display unusual vigour and boldness of conception, combined with a superior elegance of manner; while his sentiments on the expediency or in expediency of restoring the Belgic Provinces to the House of Austria, unfold the deepest political views.

He is generally reputed to be the prime mover and author of the existing Constitution, insomuch that the Jacobins, who are still attached to that of 1793, do not scruple to stile the former—*The Patrician Constitution of Boissy d'Anglas*.*

For some time a report was very current at Paris, that Boissy, in the Committee of Legislation, had expressed an opinion favourable to the appointment of a *perpetual President of the Executive Directory*. This circumstance rendered him for a time unpopular; drew on him the suspicion of being a secret Royalist,†

* He was the Reporter of the Committee of Eleven, appointed to examine and decide on its merits!

† The following very eloquent speech, pronounced in the Council of Ancients, on the 13th Fructidor (August 31), 1796, procured him a multitude of enemies, as he was particularly

and even occasioned his being denounced in a General Committee.

desirous to exclude the Jacobins from the benefit of a general amnesty, which however they obtained, in opposition to his opinion :

“ It was a memorable circumstance, a grand period of history, when a man who had obtained great influence over his fellow-citizens, a man powerful by his eloquence, his character, and his victories ; when Cæsar, in a word, attempted to persuade the Roman Senate to exercise clemency towards the accomplices of Cataline, the virtuous and inflexible Cato, appealing to the sacred name of liberty, which was menaced ; to the dearest interests of his country, which were endangered ; and to the venerable rights of justice, which were forgotten ; caused their punishment to be decreed and executed.

“ I will venture to repeat, that this is neither the time nor the place for exercising that grand act of indulgence which is proposed to you.

“ Wherefore do I say so ? It was only yesterday that they were conspiring against you ; it was but yesterday that odious and execrable colours were displayed as the signal for your assassination ; it was but yesterday that, had it not been for the circumspection and activity of Government, there would have been an end of the state, of you, and of liberty ; and you will proclaim a generous pardon in favour of those who formed the strength and the hope of your enemies ; you will invite them to renew their plots, by holding forth impunity as the most unfavourable issue of their attempts !

“ No, no, you will not : at least when the period of discussion arrives, I shall find little difficulty in combating the arguments of the advocates of the measure.

“ What is it that in effect they propose ? To consign to oblivion all revolutionary crimes. Alas ! but in order to do this you must heal all the wounds that have been inflicted ; you must repair the effects of every calamity, and find consolation for every misfortune ; you must change the hearts of the wicked, and when you pardon them in the name of the people, you must teach them to pardon themselves ; the assassin, murderer, the robber, the denouncer, the plunderer, must at your command change their manners and their principles, and become good citizens.

“ But this is a task beyond your power ; and the oblivion which you proclaim will only be partial, or rather it never will exist ; no, it never will exist. Do you imagine that in the South, for example, in those beautiful but unfortunate countries which have been so much distracted by factions, which have been ensanguined by so many assassinations, which have been so often laid waste with pillage ; in the countries from whence the Deputies come

He recovered his character however, during what was termed the *Vendémairian Conspiracy*, when the

influenced by sentiments of philanthropy which do them the greatest honour, inasmuch as they personally have many injuries to pardon; do you imagine, I say, that the relations of the unfortunate victims that were sacrificed at Bidouin, at Toulon, at Oranges, and at Fort Jean, can ever forget that you denied them the justice that was promised them? Do you suppose that they can, without terror, without horror, without emotions of which you must dread the impulse, see again at their houses, in their towns and in their fields, the ferocious butchers of their fathers, the frightful accomplices of their tyrants?

“ Ah! you speak of re-action, and do you not reflect on all those re-actions which will follow if by one word, if by one decree you ordain a Citizen to look upon, to behold in cold blood, and without hope of any satisfaction, him who has ravished his wife, or who has consigned her to the most horrible captivity.

“ Citizens Representatives, the amnesty which is proposed to you will be like an application of boiling vinegar to all these wounds; it will arm citizen against citizen; it will kindle the flame of civil war in those countries where it will most generally operate.

“ An amnesty is the effect of circumstances, and not the result of the will of a legislature; it ought rather to be the consequence of an individual will, so to speak, than of a general will. It will take place of itself, for all have need of forgiveness; and time, which consolidates every thing, will also heal up wounds; but you will retard its arrival by attempting to render it premature. Make the people happy by your institutions and by your laws, and you will produce an amnesty. Teach them to forget, under the blessings of a good government, all the evils of tyranny, and you will compel those who suffered to remember their misfortunes no more.

“ An amnesty in legislation is an act of weakness which can only give audacity to crimes, importance to the efforts of faction, and prevalence to contempt of the laws. Good men will profit nothing from it, it will only be of advantage to the profligate.

“ Do you think that if the bloody faction of anarchy, or of Royalism, were to rise into power by the aid of this same amnesty, so easily granted, that they would extend its operations to you? No—certainly, their leaders would be the first to call it unconstitutional.

“ An amnesty was proclaimed at the dissolution of the first Constituent Assembly: has it been respected? Has it saved a single individual from the execrable sword of Fouquier Tinville? No, alas! Recollect the fate of the members of the Parliament

sections of Paris were in open rebellion against the legislature, and Ferrand, a Deputy, lost his life, in consequence of the fury of the mob.

of Toulouse, who returning to France upon the faith of this amnesty, fell victims in a mass to their confidence in the decrees of the Representatives of the People.

“ Ah! were I permitted to unfold to you for a moment the bloody archives of Robespierre’s Committee, I could teach you the use which tyrants make of amnesties. Joseph Lebon consulted the Committee to know how he was to treat the amnesty of 1791. *The amnesty of the Constituent Assembly*, replied these Decemvirs, *was a crime in those who proclaimed it, and ought to protect no crime from the vengeance of the law.* Joseph Lebon obeyed his instructions, and consigned all his victims to death.

“ But why should I have recourse to all these arguments? May I not appeal to your own experience? Enough of amnesties have been proclaimed to enable you to calculate their effects: turn over the pages of our history, and tell me if the impunity of criminals has not stained them with blood. An amnesty is proclaimed for the cut-throats of the Glaciere, and a few months are scarcely elapsed when the crimes of the 2d of September are reprobated as a disgrace to the human species. They pass unpunished, and the conspiracy of the 10th of March threatens the existence of the national representation. It passes unpunished in its turn—What do I say? It is crowned by the establishment of the Revolutionary Tribunal. On the 31st of March it is executed; forty Representatives of the people are led in succession to the scaffold; all France is besmeared with blood and bedewed with tears; the country is covered with assassins and butchers, with burying-grounds and prisons; the villages are burnt, citizens are slaughtered in a mass, and when the day of justice arrives, the punishment of the culprits, modified by clemency, produces the revolt of the 12th Germinal, and the impunity with which it passes produces that of the 1st Prairial. At your feet, before your eyes, a Representative of the People is murdered; you are threatened with a similar fate, and his head is presented to you as the signal for your sacrifice.

“ Ah! I conjure you in the name of humanity itself, in the name of justice, in the name of the public interest, not to return men to society who would again tear it asunder; who, not content with impunity, are still thirsting for new assassinations, devastation, and plunder. Do not expose the harmless and peaceable man, who once was the victim of tyranny, which is now no more, to see his oppressors among his fellow-citizens—What do I say? Among his rulers, and perhaps among his Representatives, and to become himself ferocious and murderous.”

On this occasion Boissy assumed the chair as President, and acted not only with great heroism, but also with uncommon presence of mind. A portrait of him was painted, descriptive of this critical moment, in which with one hand he averts the pikes of the insurgents from his breast, while he waved the other, in order to tranquilize the turbulent Assembly.

In 1794, Boissy published a work, greatly admired for its beauty and energy, under the modest title of —“ Certain Ideas on the Arts.”

The following passage may serve, in some degree, to throw light on the philosophical system planned and adopted in his mind—“ We should be enlightened with regard to the extent of our duties, our power, our means: let us calculate the quantum of our strength and riches, and then consider the end which we ought to have in view. Let us still keep in mind, that it is not a new people whom we are called upon to organize—that it is not a few tribes dispersed here and there over uncultivated regions, without opulence, industry, luxury, great cities, and grand establishments—but that it is an old nation, whose regeneration we are ambitious to produce. It is a mass of active and enlightened individuals, to whom industry has become a want, luxury a natural passion, and knowledge a necessity. It is a people prompted by their sublime and ardent genius, to maintain the first rank among polished societies; a people living in the most fertile territory in Europe, possessing extensive colonies and commercial establishments in Asia, Africa, and America——

“ It is our duty, therefore, to organize for such a people, not the means of *poverty*, but of *plenty*—not to instruct them in the things they ought *to part with*, but to shew them *how*, and *in what manner*, they are TO ENJOY.”

Boissy d'Anglas, now in the 39th year of his age, has, on all occasions, expressed himself frankly and boldly in behalf of a renovation of morals. He in particular denounced the numerous gaming-houses,

that had lately obtruded in every corner of Paris, and called down the vengeance of the legislature on those shameful conspiracies against the peace and happiness of the social world.

Notwithstanding these services, his conduct had long been *suspected* by the zealots of republicanism, and he has of late given them but too fair an opportunity to gratify their vengeance.

Soon after the establishment of that constitution, in the creation of which he had so eminent a share, Boissy seemed anxious on many occasions to destroy the work of his own hands. His opposition to the Directory has been uniform. He not only blamed the very culpable measure of executing men by means of martial law, but seemed anxious to deprive the government of its energy, at the very moment the interests of the empire were at stake.

But it was his junction with the party of Barthelemy, Camille, Jourdan, &c. that gave the greatest offence, and was attended with the most disastrous consequences, for he was considered as one of the ringleaders in the real or pretended "Conspiracy to restore Royalty," and ordered to be transported to Cayenne.

GENERAL LEFEBVRE,

Is reproached by his enemies, with the *crime* of having been born in a cottage. God knows that this must have been involuntary, at least on his part! But, in imitation of Marius, when the Roman nobility boasted of the statues of their ancestors, he too may open his bosom, and exhibit his honest scars, by way of a reply.

Destined for the army, Lefebvre rose to a *halbert*; and would have stopped for ever at this point in the muster-roll, under the ancient order of things; without patronage, friends, family, or title; destitute of every thing but talents to back his pretensions, he would have been worn out in the service; and pined away the latter part of a miserable existence. (had

death, famine, and fatigue spared him so long) in either a jail or an hospital.

In consequence of a Revolution, wonderful in all its parts, the *quondam* drill-serjeant has distinguished himself considerably, more especially on the passage of the Rhine. The *man*, who made himself a general, was opposed to a *prince*, who was born one! His Highness* had learned to dance, and, unfortunately for him, is said to have been actually practising a *pas de deux*, at a ball, the very moment Lefebvre was beating up his quarters!

The aulic council of war would have instantly broken an untitled subaltern, and chained him, perhaps, like poor Trenck, in a dungeon, ten feet by six; but exalted rank, and high blood, must be dealt differently with: his *serenity* therefore had a jocular kind of punishment assigned him; for being known to be attached to the *Pyrhic* measure of the ancients, he has been ordered, if we are to credit the foreign journals, to *dance* all the way to Vienna!

GREGOIRE.

The constitutional Bishop of Blois, is celebrated for his various and profound literature, no less than for the urbanity of his manners: he is, in short, allowed to be one of the most accomplished men who sit in the circle of French legislators.

He has been traced to a village near Nanci, in Lorraine, of which he was the *curé*; and where, in spite of the obscurity of his station, the fame of his learning and probity had already procured him uncommon respect and celebrity.

At the time of the convocation of the States General, in 1789, Gregoire was destined to remain no longer in retirement:—his talents, and the public favour, obtained for him a place in that august and honourable assembly. Since his first appearance on

* The young Prince de W. a General in the Imperial army.

the stage of public life, he has always displayed the greatest moderation, and uniformity of character—ever deputed himself as an ornament of his order—and ever been considered as an honour to his country. His rare talents, incorruptible integrity, disinterested patriotism, and sound piety, have constantly shone in the full blaze of meridian glory.

He concurred with those virtuous clergymen in the sitting of the States General, who united themselves with the *Tiers Etat*, in opposition to the design of allotting separate chambers for the two superior orders.

In the first National Assembly, he appeared as a champion for the rights of the people; against the excessive authority exercised by the church; and is thought to have contributed more than any other man to the reformation of clerical abuses, which afterwards took place:—in the article relating to the abolition of tithes, however, he constantly voted with the minority—considering the institution to be of divine original!

His philanthropy was particularly distinguished by many fervid and eloquent speeches and motions in favour of the emancipation of the African slaves; and he took an active part in all the debates of the Legislative Body on that subject.

His talents also appeared to advantage, on another extraordinary occasion. The reform introduced into the civil constitution of the French church, being disrelished by many of the clergy, these *refractories* began to solicit the church of Rome to dispatch a *monitory*, prohibiting all attempts on their order—then it was that M. Gregoire published his celebrated *brochure*, entitled, “*A Preservative against Schism.*” Whatever success this work met among his own countrymen, its reception was not so favourable in some of the states of Italy, particularly at Naples, where an everlasting clash of interests subsists between the civil and priestly authorities; and at Rome, where the slightest appearance of innovation, in matters pertaining to ecclesiastical discipline, is looked upon as Atheism.

The translation of this work gave rise to the publication of another curious and pleasant tract, entitled, "A Question, *Whether a Jansenist be not also a Jacobin?*"

In the first sitting of the National Convention, September 21st, 1792, Gregoire concurred in the vote (on the motion of Collet d'Herbois) for the abolition of royalty in France. At a subsequent meeting, November 6th, 1793, when Gobet, Constitutional Bishop of Paris, attended by his Vicar General, renounced his clerical function at the bar of the Convention (under the notion of preferring the worship of Reason alone), Gregoire, in a declaration full of zeal, asserted his Christianity, and scrupulous adherence to the faith of his forefathers.

The representatives sent on mission to the armies and departments of France, have, as it is well known, been often guilty of great outrages, and have incurred, in consequence, no small portion of popular odium. Gregoire, however, in every department which he has visited, has conducted himself in such a manner, as to carry back with him the gratulations of his fellow-citizens.

The inhabitants of Savoy, and of all the districts conquered from the King of Sardinia, were remarkably averse to an union with the French Republic; the amicable disposition they now show towards France, has been chiefly excited by the great virtues of this popular Representative.

The highest eulogy that can be pronounced on his character, is the singular observation, that since the commencement of the Revolution, he has claimed the admiration, and won the confidence, of all the different factions that have, by turns, prevailed in the French Government. Under the bloody regimen of Robespierre, a system of proscription had been commenced against all men of letters, and professed religionists.—Such, however, was the veneration with which M. Gregoire was even then regarded, although eminent in both these characters, that no one was found hardy

enough to attack him. A stranger to personalities, and divested of private passions and ambition, his faculties were wholly absorbed by his concern for the public welfare.

As a member of the Committee of Public Instruction, M. Gregoire has laboured more abundantly than all his associates, in fostering the growth of the arts and sciences, and in encouraging their professors. He has already addressed, in the name of the Committee, some valuable reports to the National Convention, which, if collected and printed, with due regard to systematical arrangement, would furnish the public with an excellent miscellaneous composition, or *melange*.

The boldest step taken by him, since his commencing a public functionary, was his addressing an *encyclic* (circular letter) last winter, to the Bishops of France, requiring their aid in the convocation of a National Council, agreeably to the decrees of the Council of Trent, the Synod of Borromeo, and the liberties and independence of the Gallican Church. It was taken for granted at that time, that M. Gregoire would have incurred a prosecution, on this account, from the existing Government!—He was allowed, however, to pass with impunity.

The following extract, selected from his Report on the bounties to be conferred by the nation on men of genius, may enable the reader to acquire some insight into the character of this celebrated priest——

“ A great man is the public property. A prejudice vanquished, or a truth discovered, are often of greater national utility, than the acquisition of a town. A man of genius is the foremost of his century; outstrips it, and is, as it were, from this very circumstance, expatriated.—As virtue, united with beauty, is liable to peculiar temptations; so a genius, possessing the gifts of fortune, is particularly exposed to the anathemas of the fickle goddesses.”

And, in another pamphlet, we find the following passage——

“ Books consecrated to the *noblesse*, treatises of ge-

nealogy, works calculated to flatter despotism, or pamper greatness, enshrined in Morocco-leather, have always had a place in our most superb libraries; while the immortal works of Milton, Althusius, and Hubert Languet, have lain neglected in an ignoble corner, under the humble covering of parchment.

“ Works which laid open the crimes of princes and ministers of state, which demonstrated the just rights of the people, were, if I may be allowed the expression, the *Sans Culottes* of our libraries.”

In a pastoral letter addressed to his clergy, a little posterior to the restoration of religious worship, after deploring the former errors of religious factions, he adds—“ You, I trust, have not yet forsaken the faith which you once professed; yet, can I wonder, if even some amongst you, through the contagion of example, have been perverted?—Alas! our religion, like our native country, has also its EMIGRANTS!”

The character of Gregoire may be best collected from a perusal of his writings at large. He is about forty-eight years of age; in his temper extremely good-natured, and no less lively in conversation.

BUZOT.

Fran. Nic. Leon Buzot, was born at Evreux, March 1, 1760, and became a Deputy, first to the Constitutional Assembly for the department of Eure, and afterwards to the Convention, for that of the Gironde. While yet a boy, he distinguished himself by the precociousness of his judgment, and the purity and integrity of his character were admirably adapted to set off his talents to the best advantage: in short, according to Madame Roland, he united “ the morals of a Socrates, with the gentleness of a Scipio.”

Both in the Constituent Assembly and the Convention, he was considered as a first-rate speaker; and his report on the necessity of a departmental guard, has always been spoken of as a master-piece. He was a man of letters also, as well as an orator—his addressee

to his constituents abound with bold truths, and manly arguments.

The charges adduced against him by his enemies, are so many panegyrics. He was accused of *royalism*, because he asserted that morals were necessary in a Republic, and ought to be cherished and encouraged there; and of *calumniating* Paris, because he abhorred the massacres of September, and ascribed them solely to a handful of cut-throats!

He was one of the Girondists, and his attachment to a Federative Republic, such as those of Greece, America, and Switzerland, instead of a Republic, *one and indivisible*, cost him his life. How much must the idea of royalty have been dreaded in France, when his enemies could undermine his reputation, and ruin his character, by the opprobrious nick-name of *Le Roi Buzot*! But this was at a period when naughty children were whipped by their parents for being *les petits Aristocrats*!

The *Jacobins* and *Girondists* were incensed to a degree of fury against each other, during the whole winter of 1792. On the 30th of April, 1793, Buzot attacked the former in a speech replete with eloquence, and called for their immediate destruction. On this occasion he employed the severest and most pointed invectives, and represented their club as the haunt of monsters.

On the mention of one expression, (*l'abominable repaire*) characterising their place of meeting, all the *Jacobin* members arose, and vented their rage and fury against him, in consequence of which the Assembly became a scene of confusion. From this moment the rancour of both parties increased, and in a few weeks afterwards, the most energetic having proved triumphant, Buzot was proscribed.

Having escaped into the Department of the Gironde, he wandered about for some time, and led the life of a wretched fugitive, exposed to hunger and thirst, and often destitute of a place where he could shelter his head from the fury of the elements. In

this miserable condition he is supposed to have died of want, for his body was found by the side of his friend Petion, who had participated in all his distresses.

P. M. LEBRUN,

Originally known by the name of Pierre-Maria Tondou, was addicted in his early youth to astronomy, and remained at the Royal Observatory, under Cassini, until 1788. He soon after became the Editor of a newspaper, celebrated for its early communication of foreign occurrences, and the diplomatic talents of its conductor.

Shortly after the Revolution he was admitted by the Brissotins into the Administration, and became Minister for Foreign Affairs. In this situation he displayed all the resources of a subtle and intelligent mind, and had his agents in every court of Europe; in short, he was deemed the most able man, in point of real business, in the whole council.

On the triumph of the Jacobins, he was obliged to conceal himself; and has been often known to slip out towards the evening from his lurking-place, disguised under a black wig, and a shabby *surtout*, in order to procure sustenance. As he was unprovided with a *civic-card*, he was not entitled to purchase bread. This circumstance also subjected him to the interrogatories of every centinel, and to imprisonment in every guard-house he happened to pass by. After living some time in constant danger, he was at length seized, confined, and tried.

He was born at Noyon, and decapitated at Paris in the 48th year of his age, on the 8th Nivose (28th of December), 1792.

His brother, Achilles Tondou, who, like himself, had been bred an Astronomer, accompanied Choiseul Gouffier in his embassy to Constantinople, and died there in 1787.

CLAVIERRE.

Etienne Clavierre, was a native of Geneva, whence he was driven into exile, on the prevalence of the party he had opposed.

While yet a private man, he attained great celebrity by his knowledge of the resources and revenues of France; and was constantly consulted by Mirabeau, who was indebted to him for much of his reputation.

Being a leading member of a Jacobin Club, he was introduced to Louis XVI. and became Minister of Finance. On the overthrow of the Girondists he was arrested, and prevented his public execution by a voluntary death.

He is said to have been incited to this act, by the wish to preserve his property from confiscation, for the use of his family. His intentions however were frustrated, for in opposition to every idea of justice, the circumstance of self-murder was deemed a conclusive proof of guilt, and even tantamount to legal conviction. To sum up the catastrophe, his wife had recourse to poison, and his children, thus bereft of father, mother, and fortune, were left destitute.

Clavierre is said by some to have been the author of the *assignats*,* an idea which not only changed the face of France for a time, but seemed at one period likely to alter the destinies of all Europe. When Brissot published his work relative to America, he was assisted in the commercial part by him. Madame Roland allows Clavierre to have possessed talents, but she thought he was "rather too much of a banker."

AUBERT DU BAYET,

Was a *Revolutionist*, in every sense of the word; for after assisting in the troubles of his native country, he has been both officially and personally zealous to light up a new flame on the shores of the Archipelago.

* Others attribute this to Pétion.

It was of the utmost importance for France to induce the *Sublime Porte* to declare against Russia: the very probability of this event was, indeed, for a time, eminently serviceable to the Republic, as it confined the operations of the late Empress to empty threats and ineffectual bravadoes.

Aubert du Bayet, lately a member of the Administration, was accordingly employed by the Directory, in a diplomatic character, on a mission to Constantinople, for the express purpose of effecting a breach between the Greek Cross and the Turkish Crescent. This Ambassador was furnished with the crown-jewels, to bribe the Divan; and with engineers and tacticians, to instruct and direct its armies.

The annihilation of Poland has not only destroyed the balance of power, but actually endangered the political existence of the Turks as an European nation. In addition to this, it is the interest of France, and perhaps of all the maritime states, that there should be a counterpoise in that quarter to the three great partitioning powers.

Is Poland, then, to be entirely blotted out from the map of free nations, and lose even its name?—Or shall we behold that Republic which, under John Sobieski, sustained Europe during the irruption of a horde of fanatic Mussulmen, arising, phoenix-like, from its ashes, more vigorous than before?

These were the questions which Aubert du Bayet was agitating by means of his intrigues in the Turkish Cabinet, when his wife died suddenly of the plague. He himself was carried off soon after by the same fatal disorder, and thus did not live to witness the invasion of Egypt, or to experience a rigorous confinement in the prison of the Seven Towers, appropriated, time immemorial, for the reception of such Ministers as happen to be in the capital on a declaration of war.

MIRABEAU—MIRANDA—WILKES.

These three very celebrated men, of whom two are

now dead, and one in exile, met one day, by invitation, at the house of a respectable gentleman in Chesterfield-street, May-fair.

Mr. H. after dinner expected great entertainment from his guests ; but, unfortunately for him, the orator and the general had a violent dispute relative to some trifling subject, which rendered the early part of the evening uncomfortable. To complete the mortification, they both soon after attacked John Wilkes on the barbarity and inhumanity of the English nation ; as an instance of which, they mentioned *the execution of several young men, for trifling offences, in the course of that very morning.*

The hoary patriot retorted the charge ; and, turning towards Mirabeau—it was several years before the Revolution—sarcastically asked him—“ What he thought of the very *humane* mode of breaking on the wheel, as practised at the *Greve* in Paris, when the *noblesse* were accustomed to bespeak seats at the balcony windows, and sip their coffee with the same glee, as if they had been at a comedy ? ”

THOMAS LINDET,

Was the son of a respectable Advocate settled at Evreux, in Normandy. He entered early into the Revolution, and by means of his own interest, and that of his family, profited by the event.

Having been bred to the church, he soon aspired to its honours, and at the time when so many refractory dignitaries refused to take the civic oath, he presented himself as a candidate for a mitre, and attained the rank of a Constitutional Bishop.

ROBERT LINDET,

The second edition of the Jacobins, and the first

edition of the Emigrants, were proverbially violent. Robert Lindet, the brother of the Bishop, appertained to the former class, and was one of the most clamorous members in the Convention for the arrest of the thirty-two *Girondist* Deputies.

He had been originally bred to the law, in the practice of which he obtained some reputation, and was returned a member for his native Department, that of Eure.

In the Committee of Public Safety he displayed great energy of character; and it must be acknowledged, notwithstanding the odium still attached to their name, that this party saved France, and established the foundations of the Republic. *Les Philosophes*, as the Brissotins were termed, entertained a laudable abhorrence of blood-shed, rapine, and injustice—eloquent, metaphysical, dilatory, timid, they were not calculated to

“ Ride in the whirlwind, and direct the storm !”
They were admirably fitted, however, both to precede and succeed the tempest.

By some of the southern departments, whither he was sent on mission, Robert Lindet has been accused of sanguinary proceedings; but, by others, his innocence has been asserted, even after the 10th *Thermidor*, when the colleagues of Robespierre were arrested. His integrity was never assailed.

It ought to be mentioned to his credit, that during the latter part of the reign of terror, he lived in a state of almost total inactivity; for although his name was frequently used, yet he himself was not entrusted with the schemes of the *secret executive*, that directed all the springs of government. Accordingly, on the *Thermidorian Revolution*, he entered into all the views of the victorious party, and continued, during three months, in the Committee of Public Safety.

It would appear, however, that he changed his

opinions, when Boissy d'Anglas, and some others wished to extirpate all the Jacobins, for he then declaimed aloud against the impolicy and injustice of the new system, and even attacked the recent revolution with great bitterness, always mentioning it as *l'exécrable journée de 9 Thermidor*.

On the new arrangement of the legislature, Robert Lindet did not happen to be one of the *two-thirds*; in other words, he was not re-elected. Soon after this, he appears to have been implicated in the conspiracy of Babœuf and Drouet, but the Directory did not appear anxious to punish him.

M. DEMORANDE,

Was formerly Editor of the *Courier de Londres*. He came over to this country, and published a book that made great noise at the time, called *Le Gazetteur Cuirasse*; containing a variety of scandalous anecdotes of the mistresses of that very contemptible and debauched monarch, Louis XV.

The French court being determined on revenge, sent over an *exempt*, with orders to spare neither trouble nor expence to secure the *libeller* and convey him to the Bastille. On his arrival in England, in the character of an unfortunate gentleman who had fled from persecution, he found means to get introduced to M. Demorande, and, affecting to compassionate his situation, as a person exposed to the malice and intrigues of the French ministry, proffered him the loan of a sum of money. This was instantly accepted by M. D. with many expressions of gratitude; but he completely outwitted his countryman, although one of the most skilful officers belonging to the Police of Paris; for he instantly applied to Sir J. Fielding, and so frightened the satellite of Madame du Barre, that he was happy to escape *re infecta*.

Soon after the commencement of the American

war, M. D. received a pension from Lord North of about 300*l.* a year, in consequence of which he resigned the editorship of the French newspaper, and retired to Stanmore, in Middlesex; where he took a small house in the cottage style, and cultivated a beautiful garden; which was furnished with a fine collection of foreign roots.

When the French Revolution took place, he returned after a long absence to Paris, and published a weekly gazette, called *l'Argus Patriote*. He entertained a violent dislike to Brissot, whom he hated both personally and politically, and endeavoured to injure him in the esteem of his countrymen, but without effect. This circumstance, perhaps, and this alone, saved his life under the *monarchy* of Robespierre.

He now repairs daily to the *Palais Royal* on crutches; and, being a man of some eloquence, entertains those around him with his opinion of the events of the time, and the great men of the day.

He formerly married an English woman.

MONGE,

Originally a Stone-cutter at Mezieres, in Champagne, became a mathematician of some celebrity, by the liberality of the Abbe Roufflet, who rescued him from manual labour, and actually superintended his education. He was appointed Minister of the Marine, on the recommendation of Condorcet.

He is a virtuous, but dull, plodding man; and was totally incapacitated, both by nature and education, to act the important part assigned him by friendship, on one hand, and the want of able and patriotic competitors, on the other—for all those appertaining to the ancient *marine-royal*, from the minister of the department down to the *enseigne*, which answers to our midshipman, were, at this

period, notoriously *counter-revolutionary*.

Monge had solved several difficult problems, while a boy, before the Academy of Sciences; a circumstance that had captivated the regard of the Secretary. As the inspector of a seminary for ship-building, this might have been a sufficient qualification; but when, instead of contending with the passive signs of triangles and parallelograms, the mathematician was to enter upon active life, and regulate men and fleets, he was quite bewildered. The result was, accordingly, what might have been expected—the French marine became almost annihilated, during the administration of a minister, an adept indeed in geometry, but an *ignoramus* in respect to mankind.

Monge soon retired, or rather was *driven*, from a situation which he could not fill either with credit to himself, or honor to his country; and, following the natural bent of his inclinations, took refuge once more in the bosom of the sciences.

He was soon after nominated a Professor in a new national establishment, called (*l'Ecole Polytechnique*) the Polytechnical School; and has acquired considerable reputation by a skilful application of Geometry, and even of Algebra, to the perfection of taste.

In a short time after this, he published one of his lectures—" *Sur la forme la plus convenable pour une Salle d'Assemblée.*" He proposes that the hall should be constructed after the manner of an amphitheatre, but of an elliptical figure, as it is demonstrated by experience that the speaker is heard best in front. Thus beauty and utility are attempted to be reconciled together. The most proper form for the roof, is said to be the moiety of an ellipsoide—(*La place de la salle étant elliptique on ne pourrait donner à la voûte une forme plus convenable que celle la moitié d'une ellipsoide.*) The vault is to be supported by an el-

liptical arch ; that thus, “ by confining the volume of air, the orator’s voice may acquire a greater force.”

No sooner had Buonaparte by his brilliant achievements acquired a decided preponderance in the affairs of Italy, than the Directory dispatched three commissioners thither. These consisted of Monge, Daunou, and Florent, who repaired to Rome, and began their career, by repressing the disorders of the troops. In consequence of their representations, General St. Cyr was dismissed on account of peculation, and replaced by General Mc. Donald, a native of Scotland. The natives were also treated with more lenity and respect.

The next object of their mission was to collect all the grand efforts of human art, and transmit them to France. This they have fully accomplished, and the National Museum at Paris, is now become the repository of the spoils of Italy. Such was the general satisfaction at the conduct of Monge, during his residence in a public capacity at Rome, that he was second on the list of candidates for the Directory, an office for which, it is not difficult to pronounce, he was by no means calculated.

He is at present in his proper element—for he appears far better calculated to superintend the embellishments, than to launch the thunder, of a great commonwealth.

GENERAL MIRANDA

Was born in Mexico ; for his colleague, Dumourier, commits an error when he terms him a Peruvian. Notwithstanding the jealousy with which the Spaniards were accustomed to treat the native Americans, this gentleman found means to obtain a Colonel’s commission, and was employed by the Governor of Guatemala in several confidential situations. He is thought very early in life to have en-

tertained the generous resolution of emancipating his countrymen from thralldom ; and to this is attributed his precipitate retreat from New Spain.

Since that time, he has been almost literally a WANDERER. In the course of his travels, he has visited every part of Europe, and resided more than once in England. Being possessed of taste, learning, and a classical style, he was enabled to collect and to narrate a variety of anecdotes, and observations relative to the manners, policy, laws, learning, and, above all, the military establishments, of every nation.

No sooner had the French Revolution taken place, and a foreign war become inevitable, than he repaired to Paris from St. Petersburg, where he was in great favour with the Empress, who endeavoured, but in vain, to attach him to her person and service. By means of Petion, he obtained the rank of Major-general, and very ably and effectually seconded the efforts of Dumourier in Belgium. Being an excellent engineer, he displayed great military science in the art of attack ; in short, he soon became respected in the army, and popular in the capital.

When the *hero of Jemappe* penetrated into Holland, he was appointed to the command of the troops destined to attack Maestricht : the attempt proved abortive : but, as this evidently proceeded from the negligence of the General at the head of the *covering* army, his laurels were not blighted by the event.

The conduct of Dumourier, as soon as he began to experience a reverse of fortune, became suspicious ; and his frequent conferences with the Austrian General, which ended at length in his entire defection, rendered all the patriots in the army jealous of him. Miranda instantly communicated his fears to his friend Petion, at that time a Member of the Committee of Public Safety ; and orders

were soon after issued to arrest the Commander in Chief. This circumstance saved the life of Miranda; for Dumourier had attributed the loss of the battle of Nerwindin to him, and still blames him in his history. To this the other has made a reply, equally able and animated.

No sooner had the party of *Gironde* been overwhelmed by the energies of the *Mountain*, than Miranda was imprisoned. He was liberated at the general *goal-delivery* on the execution of Robespierre; took an active part against the sections of Paris, during the last insurrection, and was once more put under arrest by order of the Directory.

Since that period he has been enjoined to quit France, under pretence of being a *foreigner*. This ungrateful return for his services was, perhaps, suggested at the instance of the court of Madrid, which has long viewed him with a jealous eye. If so, it was baffled in the first instance; for Miranda refused to obey the order; and, claiming the rights of French *citizenship*, appealed to the legislature, in consequence of which the Executive was obliged to desist, for a time. Its power, rather than its justice, however, prevailed at length, and he was driven into exile.

General Miranda at present resides in this country; but, like the other emigrants (Pichegru, De Puffaye, and a few more excepted,) he receives no countenance from Government, being tolerated rather than cherished.

NAPOLÉONE BUONAPARTE,

It requires but a very superficial examination into the history of mankind to discover, that great events are productive of great characters. They excite the passions; invigorate individual talents; rescue merit from undeserved obscurity; and, setting aside the fictitious distinctions founded on the

foibles, rather than the conventions of society, give full play to exertion, and ample scope to genius. But this fact is never more satisfactorily illustrated, than in the contests connected with, and founded on, the love of freedom: a principle intimately blended with our existence and our happiness; and which, being founded in nature, is latent in the basest and most selfish hearts.

The hemisphere of Greece exhibited a galaxy of heroes, during her struggle for liberty, against the domestic tyrants who oppressed, and the foreign kings who endeavoured to enslave her. The names and actions of Pelopidas and Epaminondas; of Leonidas and Agis; of Hermodius and Aristogiton; are familiar to every classical scholar, and have been long dear to mankind. In Rome, we behold one Brutus arise to expel Tarquin, and another to punish Cæsar. The burning hand of Scævola appalled the heart of the king of Etruria; and a single citizen, in the person of Horatius Cocles, defending a bridge against a little army, struck an astonished enemy with terror and dismay.

To recur to modern times, a few obscure peasants, such as Tell, Erni, Stauffacher, rescued Switzerland from the oppression of the haughty House of Austria, and established a federal commonwealth, that has lasted longer *unaltered* than any monarchy in Europe. In our days, we have beheld a few American citizens ennobling, by their struggles, a memorable revolution, achieved by a printer, a lawyer, a farmer: we have often heard one of its authors reproached with being a stay-maker; and the St. James's Gazette actually ridiculed a man as a *horse-dealer*, whose promotion to the rank of Major-general in the British service it was afterwards forced to record.

Similar causes in France have produced nearly similar effects, and the triumphs of the monarchy have been obliterated by the glories of the Repub-

lic. Disorganised, undisciplined, dissatisfied ; her armies, at the beginning of the contest, exhibited numbers without valour, and enterprise without success. It can have been no common principle, then, that has forced the veteran troops of Europe to *turn pale* before her fresh levies ; and the Brunswicks, the Clerfayes, the Wurmsers, to bend their silver locks to men, new to the science of war, and unknown to history.

At one time we have seen Dumourier feebly opposing the allies, and actually deprecating their efforts ; at another time, invading their possessions ; and, soon after, flying to them for succour and protection. Jourdan, by the exertion of soldiery bravery alone, taught the enemy to respect his countrymen ; Pichegru displayed all the resources of a great tactician, and directed every movement by the rules of art. Moreau, in imitation of Xenophon, acquired more glory by retreat, than others have achieved by victory ; and Buonaparte, by uniting the warrior and the statesman in his own person, appears to have consummated the glory of his adopted country.

This extraordinary man, born in the town of Ajaccio, in Corsica, in 1767, is the son of Charles Buonaparte and Lætitia Raniolini. His father, who was also a native of Ajaccio, was bred to the civil law, at Rome, and took part with the celebrated Paoli, in the ever-memorable struggle, made by a handful of brave islanders, against the tyrannical efforts of Louis XV, and the Machiavelian schemes of his minister Choiseul.

I am assured, by a near relation of the family, that he not only laid aside the *gown* upon this occasion, but actually carried a musket as a volunteer !

On the conquest of the island, he wished to retire, with the gallant chieftain who had so nobly struggled for its independence ; but he was prevented by his uncle, a canon, who exercised a parental authority over him.

In 1773, a deputation from the three estates was sent to wait on the King of France ; and, on this occasion, Charles Buonaparte was selected to represent the nobles. He was soon after promoted to the office of *procuratore reale* of Ajaccio ; where his ancestors, supposed to have been originally from Tuscany, had been settled nearly two hundred years.

The progeny of the elder Buonaparte was numerous, for he had seven children ; four sons and three daughters. It was his good fortune, however, to be cherished by the French ; and both he and his family lived in the greatest intimacy with M. de Marbœuf, the Governor, who received a revenue of sixty thousand livres a year, on condition of doing nothing !

An *intendant* was paid nearly as much ; and a swarm of hungry leeches, engendered in the corruption of the court of Versailles, at one and the same time sucked the blood of the Corsicans, and drained the treasure of the mother country : in short, like the conquests of more recent times, the subjugation of that island seems to have been achieved for no other purpose than to gratify avarice, and satiate rapacity.

On the death of his friend, Charles Buonaparte, M. de Marbœuf continuing to patronize his family, placed his second son, Napoleone, the subject of these memoirs, at the *Ecole Militaire*, or Military Academy.

The advantages resulting from this seminary, which has produced more great men than any other in Europe, were not lost on young Buonaparte ; he there applied himself, with equal assiduity and address, to mathematics, and studied the art of war as a regular science.

Born in the midst of a republican struggle in his native land, it was his good fortune to burst into manhood at the moment when the country of his choice shook off the chains with which she had been

manacled for centuries. There was also something in his manners and habits that announced him equal to the situation for which he seems to have been destined : instead of imitating the frivolity of the age, his mind was continually occupied by useful studies ; and from the lives of Plutarch, a volume of which he always carried in his pocket, he learned, at an early age, to copy the manners, and emulate the actions, of antiquity.

With this disposition, it is but little wonder that he should have dedicated his life to the profession of arms. We accordingly find him, while yet a boy, presenting himself as a candidate for a commission in the artillery ; and his success equalled the expectations of his friends, for he was the twelfth on the list, out of the thirty-six who proved victorious in the contest. In consequence of this event, he became a Lieutenant in the French army, and served as such, during two or three years, in the regiment of *La Fere*, which he joined at Valence, in Dauphiny.

In 1790, General Paoli repaired to France, where he was honoured with a civic crown : and there he embraced the son of his old friend, who had served under him at St. Florenzé in 1768. They met again, soon after, in Corsica ; where Buonaparte, then a Captain, was elected Lieutenant-Colonel of a *corps* of Corsican National Guards *in activity*.

On the second expedition fitted out against Sardinia, he embarked with his countrymen, and landed in the little island of Maddalena, which he took possession of, in the name of the French Republic ; but finding the troops that had been got together for this expedition, neither possessed organization nor discipline, he returned to the port of Ajaccio, whence he had set out.

In the mean time a scheme, was formed for the annexation of Corsica to the crown of England ; and the cabinet, in an *evil hour*, acceded to a plan which

while it diminished the wealth, has contributed but little either to the honour or advantage of this country.

Buonaparte had a difficult part to act on that occasion : he was personally attached to Pasquale Paoli ; he resented the treatment he had experienced during the reign of the *Terrorists* ; and had actually drawn up, with his own hand, the remonstrance transmitted by the Municipality of Ajaccio against the decree declaring the General an enemy to the Commonwealth.

Indeed, he was supposed to be so intimately connected with him, that a warrant was issued by Lacombe de St. Michel, and the two other Commissioners of the Convention, to arrest young Buonaparte ! Notwithstanding this, he was determined to remain faithful to his engagements ; and, learning that the English fleet in the Mediterranean had failed for the purpose of seizing his native island, he embarked, along with his family, for the continent, and settled within eighteen leagues of Toulon.

That town, the second sea-port in France, was at this moment in the possession of the English, having been just seized upon by Admiral Lord Hood, who had substituted the British Cross in the place of the three-coloured flag. The military talents of the young Corsican were well known to Salicetti, who introduced him to Barras, now one of the Directory, to whom he afforded indubitable proof of the sincerity of his professions, at a period when suspicion was justified by the most serious and frequent defections. He was accordingly advanced from the rank of *Chef de Brigade*, to that of General of Artillery ; and directed, under General Dugommier, the attacks of the various redoubts that surrounded and strengthened this important port, in which Collot d'Herbois soon after declared, " that he had found the galley-slaves alone faithful to the Republic !"

It is almost needless to add, that the energy of the French troops, added to the scientific arrangements of the engineers, overcame the zeal and resistance of a motley garrison, and restored the key of the Mediterranean to France.

It may be necessary, however, to remark, that Buonaparte, in 1793, took an active part against General Paoli and the English; for, in the course of that year, he appeared with a small armament before Ajaccio, the town and citadel of which he summoned in the name of the Republic; but he met with a formidable enemy in his own cousin, the brave Captain Mafferia, who commanded a *corps* of Corsicans during the siege of Gibraltar, and had learned the management of red-hot shot under Lord Heathfield.

The conquest of Toulon contributed not a little to raise the credit of Buonaparte; and it proved equally advantageous to his friend Barras. That deputy had been also bred a military man, and was employed by his colleagues on all great emergencies. One of these soon occurred: this was the disturbance among the sections of Paris, known by the name of the *Insurrection of Vendémiaire*.

On this occasion he took care to be surrounded by able men, among whom was general Buonaparte, whom he had invested with the command of the artillery at the siege of Toulon. It was to another Corsican, however, that he confided the superintendence of the army: this was Gentili, who had just acquired great reputation by the gallant defence of Bastia.

On trial, however, it was immediately discovered, that the *deafness* of Gentili was an invincible obstacle to success, as he could neither hear nor attend to the multiplied and complicated reports of the *Aides du Camp*, who were continually bringing him messages, or addressing him relative to the situation of the enemy. Luckily for the Convention,

Napoleone Buonaparte was, at this critical and decisive moment, appointed his successor; and it is to the masterly dispositions made by him, that the triumph of the Representative Body is principally ascribed. It is but justice to add, that the moderation displayed on this occasion is, perhaps, unequalled in the history of civil wars of modern times!

A nobler field now opened for the exertions of Buonaparte; for he was soon after invested with the chief command of the French army in Italy, which, under his direction, prepared to open the campaign of 1795.

In the spring of that year, we find the Austro-Sardinian troops defeated within forty miles of Turin; fourteen thousand were either killed or taken prisoners on this occasion, and the cannon and camp equipage seized on by the victors. The army of Lombardy was also doomed to experience a most humiliating disaster, although led on by a cautious veteran, Beaulieu, in person: this was attributed solely to the skilful manœuvres of the commander in chief, seconded by the active exertions of Generals Laharpe, Massena, and Servona.

The Austrian General Provera was taken prisoner in a third engagement; in consequence of which forty field-pieces, with the horses, mules, and artillery waggons, &c. were captured by the French; and two thousand five hundred of the allies killed, and eight thousand made prisoners. In short, the battles of Millesimo, Dego, Mondovi, Monte Lérino, and Montenotte, were decisive of the fate of Sardinia; for the aged and superstitious monarch then seated on the throne, found himself reduced to the humiliating situation of relinquishing Savoy and Nice, and subscribing to such terms as were granted by the Victor, who could have driven him from his throne, and obliged him to spend the short remainder of a wretched life in exile, and perhaps in poverty!

The battle of Lodi, fought on the 21st Floreal, (May 10th) nearly completed the overthrow of the Austrian power in Italy, and added greatly to the reputation of the French arms. On this occasion, a battalion of grenadiers bore down all before them, and reached the bridge of Lodi, shouting—"Long live the Republic!" but the dreadful fire kept up by the enemy having stopped the progress, Generals Berthier, Massena, Cervoni, &c. rushed forward; even their presence would have proved ineffectual, had it not been for the intrepidity of Buonaparte, who, snatching a standard from the hand of a subaltern, like Cæsar, on a similar occasion, placed himself in front, and animating his soldiers by his actions and gesticulations—for his voice was drowned in the noise of the cannon and musketry—Victory once more arranged herself under the Gallic banners.

In consequence of this series of victories Beaulieu was obliged to yield the palm to a younger rival; for he felt himself reduced to the necessity of retreating among the mountains of Tyrol, on which the French took possession of the greater part of Lombardy, and acquired astonishing resources, and immense magazines.

After crossing the Mincio, in the face of the Austrians, the Republican army entered Verona, which so lately had afforded an asylum to a *titular* King of France, and seized on Pavia. Here a new and more dreadful enemy attempted to stop the progress of the conquerors, It was superstition, clothed in cowls and surplices, brandishing a poniard in one hand, and a crucifix in the other; but the speedy punishment of the priests and their adherents put an end to the insurrection, and thus saved Buonaparte and his army from a more imminent danger than they had as yet experienced, and from which no French army, that hitherto crossed the Alps, has been exempt.

At length Mantua alone remained in possession of the Austrians, and this also was soon invested by the victors, who, at the same time, made inroads into the Tyrol; and, by the battle of Roveredo, and the possession of Trent, became masters of the passes that lead to Vienna.

In the mean while, the gallant Wurmser determined to shut himself up, with the remainder of his dispirited troops, in Mantua; and the Austrians made one more grand effort, by means of General Alvinzy, to rescue his besieged army, and regain their ancient preponderance in Italy. But the battle of Arcola completely disappointed their expectations, and the capture of Mantua at one and the same time concluded the campaign, and their humiliation.

In the winter of 1796, General Buonaparte was united to Madame Beauharnois, a beautiful Frenchwoman, who had experienced a variety of persecutions during the time of Robespierre. Her former husband attained the rank of General in the service of the Republic, and always conducted himself as a friend of liberty.

On that memorable day, when Louis XVI. and his family repaired to Paris, M. de Beauharnois sat as President of the National Assembly, and exhibited great dignity of demeanour: notwithstanding this, he fell a victim to the Terrorists, who, joining the narrow ideas of Sectarists to the ferocious character peculiar to themselves, persecuted all whose opinions were not exactly conformable to their own standard. M. Barras, at length, luckily for her, extended his protection to the widow, who is now the wife of his friend.

The campaign of 1797, opened under the most auspicious circumstances for France; Spain was now in alliance with her; Sardinia acted a subordinate part under her control; Tuscany obeyed her

requisitions; Naples had concluded a separate peace, and Rome was at her mercy. In this situation, the eyes of the Court of Vienna, and indeed of all Europe, were turned towards the Archduke Charles, who was said to inherit the military talents of the House of Lorraine.

It was accordingly determined, that this young prince should be appointed commander in chief, and that the hero of Kehl should oppose the hero of Italy. The contest, however, was not long between birth and genius; between a young man of illustrious extraction, surrounded by flatterers, and educated in the corrupting circle of a court, and a hardy Corsican, brought up amidst perils, breathing the spirit of the ancient republics, acquainted with all the machinery of modern warfare, directing every thing under his own eye—whose mistress was the Commonwealth, and whose companion was Plutarch!

At length, in April, 1797, the House of Austria deemed it prudent to sue for an armistice, and accept of terms of accommodation, that would have been at one time deemed humiliating.

A few weeks after this, Buonaparte granted peace to Venice, or rather acquired possession of every thing appertaining to that ancient aristocracy. In consequence of this, he took advantage of the absence of the English fleet from the Mediterranean, embarked a body of French troops on board his lately acquired navy, and took possession of the isles of Corfu, St. Maur, Zephalonia, and Zante.

All these were confirmed to France, by the treaty of Campo Formio, signed Oct. 17th; and no sooner had the victorious chief received the ratification of his Imperial Majesty, than he returned to Paris. The event of a peace with Austria was celebrated at the Luxemburgh, by a grand festival, at which Buonaparte assisted. On this occasion, the Minister for Foreign Affairs, after presenting him

to the Directory, made a speech, in which, by pointing to a different object, he dexterously concealed the future designs of the French Cabinet.

The reply of the "conqueror of Italy," has been famed rather for its eloquence than correctness.

"Citizen Directors,

"The French people, in order to be free, had kings to combat. To obtain a constitution founded on reason, they had to overcome the prejudices of eighteen hundred years. Religion, absolute monarchy, and the feudal system, governed Europe during the last twenty centuries; *but with the peace which you have concluded begins the era of representative governments.*

"You have succeeded in organizing the great nation, whose vast territory is now circumscribed by those limits alone which Nature herself has traced.

"You have done more. The two first countries of Europe, once celebrated for the arts, sciences, and great men they produced, behold the genius of Liberty arising from the tombs of their ancestors. They are two pedestals on which Fate is about to place two powerful nations.

"I have now the honour to present you with the treaty of Campo Formio, signed and ratified by his Majesty the Emperor. This peace secures the liberty, the prosperity, and the glory of the Republic.

"When the happiness of the French people shall be settled on the basis of the best and wisest laws, all Europe will be free."

In order to deceive the enemy, relative to an expedition equally singular and important, which was now become a favourite object with the French cabinet, Buonaparte published an address to the "army of England." He then set off from the capital, and at Calais beheld, for the first time, the hostile shores of Britain. Both there, and at Dunkirk, he

reviewed the troops, and as his time would not permit to examine the army in Flanders in person, he dispatched a general in his *suite* thither.

After this, he returned once more to Paris, and set out privately for the southern provinces.

In the mean time, a large fleet, and an immense number of transports, were collecting in several of the seaports of the Mediterranean. Great bodies of the best troops were marched from a variety of different points, and embarked on board vessels of every description. If we are to believe reports, accompanied with an air of authenticity, the army collected on this occasion amounted to 35,000 chosen men. The ships of war consisted of fifteen sail of the line, fourteen frigates, and several corvettes. The transports under their convoy were 293 sail.

The ports of Marseilles, Toulon, Genoa, and Cevita Vecchia, were fixed on for the embarkation of the stores, provisions, artillery, ammunition, &c. A body of learned men went on board at the same time, with the *apparatus* appertaining to the different arts and sciences in which they excelled.

This grand armament, the greatest that had appeared in the Mediterranean since the time of the crusades, set sail on the 19th of May, with a favourable gale, and formed a line of several leagues in extent.

While every one was contemplating this great event, and wondering to what point of the compass this new tempest was directed, intelligence was received, at one and the same time, of the attack and surrender of Malta; a rock, which both nature and art had contributed to render impregnable: and it seems still to be a moot point, whether it fell by stratagem or treachery.

Immediately after this, the adventurous Corsican steered towards the Nile, took possession of Alexandria by storm, beat Murat Bey in two actions, the second of which seems to have been decisive;

drove Ibrahim Bey into upper Egypt, and seized on Cairo, Rosetta, Damietta, and Suez.

In the mean time, by an exploit that has conferred on him immortal reputation, Sir Horatio Nelson, almost entirely annihilated the French squadron, under Admiral Brueys, which had been injudiciously moored in the road of Bequires :

“ If in respect to this calamitous event, (says Buonaparte, in one of his dispatches) he (the French Admiral) was to blame ; he has expiated his faults by a glorious death. The destinies (adds he) have been desirous to prove on this occasion, as on many others, that if they grant to us a decided preponderance on land, they have given the empire of the seas to our rivals.”

Disappointed in his wish to penetrate into India, in consequence of the lateness of the season, the opposition of the Mamalukes, and the still fiercer resistance of the Bedouin Arabs, the French General determined to extend his authority, and consolidate his power in Egypt. With this view, he is said to have availed himself of the religious prejudices of the inhabitants to gain their esteem ; he has also employed other means, that speak feelingly to the hearts of all men, for he has rescued the Cophts from slavery, and divided the paternal inheritance among the surviving children, instead of permitting it, as heretofore, to be claimed by the Grand Signor, and devoured by his subordinate officers.

By way of striking their senses with awe, on the 1st Ventose, he celebrated the seventh anniversary of the Republic with uncommon magnificence. At Alexandria, the garrison assembled at the “ pillar of Pompey,” on that occasion decorated with the *tri-coloured cockade* ; and in the evening “ Cleopatra’s needle” was illuminated.

At Cairo, a pyramid was erected in the public square, the seven faces of which contained the names of such of the seven divisions as had fallen in

battle, while the troops in Upper Egypt celebrated the event on "the ruins of Thebes!"

Such hitherto have been the principal features of an expedition which a Minister of this country has termed "frantic," and which, on the first view, assuredly bears a near resemblance to the crusades of the middle ages. The peaceable possession of Egypt would, however, procure to France, by means of an easy navigation, most, if not all, the commodities she has hitherto obtained by distant and tedious voyages to the regions situated within the tropics. The commodities of India might, in time, be also circulated once more throughout Europe, by means of this grand *entrepot*, while the stream of riches that flows from Asia to England could perhaps be intercepted, and the latter receive a deadly wound in the extremities of her empire.

But what, on the other hand, has not Buonaparte hazarded by this romantic expedition? He who subdued Venice, conferred a new form of government on Genoa; struck the triple crown from the head of Pius VI, made Sardinia a kingdom only by courtesy, restored Corsica to France, overthrew five Austrian armies in succession, and taught even an Emperor to tremble beneath his diadem? We now behold him, with his fleet destroyed, his army exposed to sickness, obliged to fight for every inch of territory, assailed by the hordes of the desert, with the mouth of the Nile blocked up, and nearly confined, if we are to believe report, to the scanty territory of the Delta!

Is this an Alexander, laying down plans for the benefit of posterity, and subduing savage nations, in order to accomplish his projects—or is it Charles XII. blasting all his laurels, by listening to the perfidious counsels of Masseppa, and wandering like a fugitive, rather than a conqueror, among the Cossacks of the Ukraine?

As to his person, Buonaparte is of small stature,

but admirably proportioned. He is of a spare habit of body, yet robust, and calculated to undergo the greatest fatigues. His complexion, like that of all the males of southern climate, is olive; his eyes large and black, his chin prominent, the lower part of his face thin, and his forehead square and projecting. The large whole length Italian print, published in London by *Testolini*, exhibits a good likeness; but the best portrait ever taken of him was one painted at Verona, in consequence of the solicitations of an English artist, who applied to him for this purpose, by means of a letter from a relation; now in London.

In respect to his mind, he possesses uncommon attainments. He converses freely, and without pedantry on all subjects, and writes and speaks with fluency and eloquence. Above all things, he has attempted, and in a great measure obtained, the mastery over his passions. He is abstemious at his meals, and was never seen, in the slightest degree, intoxicated; he possesses many friends, but has no minions; and preserves an inviolable secrecy, by means of a rigorous silence, far better than other men do by a loquacious hypocrisy.

His mother, the beautiful *Lætitia Buonaparte*, is still alive, as are also two of his sisters, one of whom is just married to a distinguished Frenchman. They were lately taken prisoners by an English armed vessel, during their passage from France to Corsica, but have been restored to their country and their friends.

GENERAL ANGÉREAU.

It was once said of a man, as it is still of a horse, that in order to be good for any thing, he must be of some particular *strain* or *breed*. What the Arabian cross or mixture is to the one, nobility was considered to be to the other, and heroes were supposed to

be derived exclusively from that class! What contributed not a little to support this chimera, was the circumstance of most of the armies of Europe being officered by the nobles only.

This, however, is one of the many ridiculous and degrading illusions dispelled by the French Revolution. Jourdan and Hoche are *roturiers*, or descendants of the *mobility*; and Dumouriez and Buonaparte would scarcely have been considered as gentlemen under the old government.

Angereau, siding with the people, to whom he appertains by birth—for he is the son of a petty Parisian tradesman—suddenly rose to the rank of General. He has often distinguished himself in the Republican ranks, and of late acquired great celebrity in Italy, where he commanded one of the wings of Buonaparte's army—of that army that has annihilated so many Austrian ones!

Angereau served in a subordinate situation in a Neapolitan regiment of Epirots, until 1787, when he actually settled as a fencing-master in the capital of the Two Sicilies. In 1792, he was banished, along with the rest of his countrymen. On this he repaired to the army of Italy, and became a volunteer. Passing through all the intermediate steps, he has at length risen to the rank of General of Division. He is not a mere foldier; for, after acting as a political missionary in Italy, he concerted, with the friends of Liberty in that country, on the best means of facilitating the entrance and progress of the French army. He is now about forty-five or forty-six years of age.

“He is a low fellow! I actually knew him a fencing-master!” exclaimed an Italian *Signora*, on hearing of the battle of Lodi—“This same Angereau taught my son!”

“I hope your son will follow the examples of so great a master,” replies a Frenchman—“he will then have something of the *ancient Roman* in him!”

"He was nothing more than a drummer at Naples," cried a pert Sicilian. "Ah! this man," rejoins the lively Parisian—"seems to have been destined to *make a noise*, I perceive, from his very infancy!!!"

No sooner had the glad tidings of the capture of Mantua reached the capital, than the elder Angereau, who is an honest grocer, was complimented on the valour and talents of his son. A fraternal banquet was prepared to celebrate the great event. At the age of seventy five, the father of the victorious General was placed in the seat of honour at a table covered with an elegant repast, and a wreath of laurel, adorned with a three coloured riband, was presented to him, in the name of an applauding country.

Thus, to honour an aged parent, was the most delicate compliment that could be paid to an affectionate son!

"Les hommes sont egaux ; ce n'est point la naissance, C'est la seule vertu qui fait leur difference."

VOLTAIRE.

Angereau, on his return to France, enjoyed the confidence of the *majority* of the Directory, and was accordingly employed by them in order to bring about the Thermidorian Revolution. On that memorable occasion, Barras, La Reveillere, and Rewbell, assumed the command of the capital, and appointed this general their lieutenant.

He accordingly marched to the Thuilleries, with a chosen body of men, and summoned the grenadiers composing the guard of the Legislative Body. Instead of opposing, they received him with open arms, and formed a line for his passage. On this, the gates of the Assembly were forced, and the real or pretended conspirators arrested by this intrepid man, who assuredly staked his life on the event of the contest.

N.

The success of this day, as may be easily supposed, soon led to new preferment. Angereau was accordingly appointed Commander in Chief of the French army on the frontiers of Spain, with a view, as was then thought, to penetrate into Portugal, and arrived at Perpignan on the 27th of February, 1798. On this occasion, the Government testified its approbation in the following terms :

“ The Executive Directory depends with full confidence on the result of the operations of General Angereau in his new and important mission. After having served the Republic with so much glory and success, he must daily acquire fresh claims to national gratitude.”

GENERAL MASSENA.

No nation in Europe has experienced a greater degree of degeneracy than the inhabitants of modern Italy. Does this proceed from superstition that degrades ? tyranny that humbles and debases ? or an unmanly refinement, that bursts into extacies at the warblings of a *castrato*, unmans the sex, in order to charm the ear, and cuts off the source of population, to gratify the momentary longings of a debauched appetite ?

It has been asserted by a respectable traveller, that the descendants of a people who once enriched the world with science and the arts, and afforded the noblest monuments of human virtue and human skill, notwithstanding the cruel yoke of the Mussulmans, still call to mind the greatness of their ancestors. We are assured, they not unfrequently hint that they are sprung from those Greeks who were no less memorable in arts than arms, and not only recapitulate the feats of their progenitors, but actually point out the scenes of their glory.

Notwithstanding appearances, this is precisely the case, and perhaps in a still greater degree with

the descendants of the ancient Romans. Among them, too, first arose the free and independent little commonwealths of modern Europe; and the seeds of early liberty have not yet been entirely choked by the triple servitude of civil, religious, and foreign domination. In addition to this, the foundations of a new Republic have lately been laid in a classic soil; and notwithstanding they are still kept in thralldom by their *liberators*, the people may at some future day bethink themselves of the Brutuses, the Catos, and the Scipios of antiquity.

Massena is now about thirty-seven years of age. He was born at Nice, at a period when it appertained to the House of Savoy, into whose service he entered at an early period of life. The reproach is not peculiar to the court of Turin, that, without *protection*, merit cannot make any progress there. How many officers of talents in our own country have beheld the bastard or legitimate son of a lord taking rank and precedence of them, in consequence of superior interest? It was well observed by an English subaltern, "that, in order to attain a rapid promotion, he would rather be backed by a *rotten borough*, than possess the military talents of Turenne!"

Massena became an Ensign in the Sardinian army; and an ensign he might have remained to this moment, had he chosen to continue in that service. But a better destiny awaited him, and in pursuit of that, he threw up his commission; and, entering into a French legion, soon distinguished himself.

It was at the capture of Sospello that he first developed his military talents; and it was entirely owing to him, that Saorgio, in the campaign of 1794, yielded to the Republican arms. For this service he was rewarded with the rank of General of Division.

No sooner was Buonaparte appointed to the command of the army of Italy, than the local knowledge,

intrepidity, and experience of Massena, pointed him out as an able officer, capable of seconding his views, and advancing his progress. We accordingly find him, in the spring of 1796, acting a brilliant part, under the direction of that celebrated warrior, at the battles of Montenotte and Monte Lezino, against the Sardinian army, in which he had formerly served as an obscure subaltern.

He was also present at the successive actions of Millesimo, Dego, Mondovi, and Cossaria; in all which he distinguished himself by the impetuous valour with which he attacked the armies under Proveyra and Beaulieu. He was no less successful against Wurmser, and contributed not a little to the capture of Mantua.

After being the companion of the glory, he acted as the proxy of his General; in whose name he repaired to Paris, in order to concert with the Directory relative to the preliminaries of peace, and the removal of the victorious armies of the Republic from such of the conquered provinces as were to be restored to Austria.

Massena, since that period, has taken a very active part in the organization of the Roman Republic. It was he who nominated the Constituted Authorities: and *installed* the Consulate in its authority.

"The French Republic," says he, in a proclamation issued on this occasion, "renounces the right of conquest which appertains to it over the territories of Rome, and proclaims the establishment and independence of the Roman Republic.

"France had cruel injuries to revenge; but she will be avenged in a manner worthy of herself, provided the Roman people be but happy and free.—The liberty and property of a nation can only be guaranteed by a constitution: the Executive Directory of the French Republic offers one to the Roman People. By this offer, the Republic shields

them from the political convulsions and factions which continually arise in a state when deficient in this point ; and the Romans, at her call, shall enter on that career of liberty, and practice of virtue, which immortalized their ancestors."

Respect for historical truth will not permit the concealment, that this General has been accused of speculation, and removed from his command, in consequence of complaints from the army, accusing him of having permitted the inhabitants of Rome to be plundered and oppressed. This event reflects infinite disgrace on the Commander, but it at the same time does honour to the troops who denounced him.

NECKER,

A native of Geneva, and son of a professor there, was first a clerk, then a banker in Paris. This celebrated man, was destined to rise from the desk of a counting-house, to one of the highest employments in Europe—that of Minister of Finance to the French Monarchy. Vanity, egotism, ostentation—these are said to be his failings ; but, on the other hand, a good husband, a good father, a good citizen—he is in possession of all the public and private virtues. If he evinces less ability than his rival Calonne, be it remembered, that he can boast of more integrity. Suspicion has never blasted his fair fame with the charge of unaccounted millions. A man of business in office, a philosopher in disgrace—he never allowed himself to be elevated or depressed, either by the smiles or frowns of a king ; he still remembered that he was a citizen of Geneva !

He, however experienced a variety of mortifications, for which he indemnified himself, perhaps, by the hope of proving serviceable to mankind.—

Old Maurepas never allowed him to sit in his presence !

To the preponderance of the *Tiers E'tat*, produced entirely by his means, France is indebted for her Revolution ; but for this, the nation would have relapsed into servitude, and the crown (being *hors de page*) into despotism. He was once banished, and once recalled from the country of his adoption ; the last, perhaps, final retreat, was voluntary on his part.

Necker has written on religion, morals, finance, and government. His late wife, formerly Mademoiselle Curchod, the daughter of a Cure of the reformed religion, was greatly admired by Gibbon, the historian, about thirty years since ; but his love, which does not appear to have been very violent, easily yielded to the admonitions of parental prudence. She is allowed to have been a most amiable and virtuous woman.

His daughter, Madame de Stael, is married to the Minister Plenipotentiary from Sweden to the French Republic. She has written many political tracts, and gave some good advice to the coalesced powers, about eighteen months since ; but on her return to Paris, she was denounced by Legendre, as entertaining views hostile to the commonwealth. This put an end for some time to her political speculations ; for the Court of Sweden finds its neutrality too profitable to risk it by any dispute with the French Republic.

M. Necker has lately published a work, in four volumes, on the French Revolution ; and, perhaps, no man of the present day has written more than himself.

Notwithstanding his uninterrupted struggles for celebrity, few have proved more unfortunate in this respect ; for, while treated with the most mortifying contempt by the Republicans, he is detested by the Royalists, who, with their accustomed modera-

tion, affect to consider him sometimes as a conspirator, and sometimes as a *charlatan*.

From the multitude of satirical verses, written against him, the following couplet is selected, rather on account of its wit than truth.

M. NECKER.

“ Agioteur adroit, ministre sans moyen,
“ De rien il fit de l’or, et d’un empire rien.”

MARIE ANNE CHARLOTTE CORDAY,

Born at Saturnin, in the department of Orne, and whose name is rendered illustrious as the assassin of the monster Marat, was the daughter of a man attached by a place to the court. The *demoiselle* Corday was zealous for freedom : rich, young, beautiful—a woman—she was, nevertheless, a Republican. An enthusiast, but not a fanatic ; she possessed the warmth of the one character, without the extravagance of the other. At the place of execution, she uttered not a single word ; her face still possessed an heroic calmness ; she seemed conscious of future glory, and approaching happiness ! Although silent, her gesticulations were eloquently impressive ; for she frequently placed her hand on her heart, and seemed to say—“ I rejoice in having exterminated a monster !”

Brutus and Corday both equally struck for Liberty ; but, alas ! neither of them was so happy as to secure it. The execution of Robespierre, however, in the issue, effected, for modern France, what the punishment of Anthony, and the banishment of Octavius, could not, perhaps, have produced in degenerate Rome.

To this woman, Greece would have erected statues, Rome temples : France may some day insert her name in the calendar of her martyrs—the ancients would have placed her among their gods !

The following is a Translation of a Letter from Marie Anne Victoire Charlotte Corday, to her Father. Written on the evening before her Trial.

From the prison of the Conciergerie, in the apartment lately occupied by the Deputy Brissot.

"My dear and respected Father, July 16, 1793.

"Peace is about to reign in my beloved native country, for Marat is no more !

"Be comforted, and bury my memory in eternal oblivion.

"I am to be tried to-morrow the 17th, at seven o'clock in the morning.

"I have lived long enough, as I have achieved a glorious exploit.

"I put you under the protection of Barbaroux and his colleagues, in case you should be molested.

"Let not my family blush at my fate ; for, remember, according to Voltaire—

'That crimes beget disgrace, and not the scaffold.'

"Your aff. &cinate daughter,

MARIE ANNE VICTOIRE CHARLOTTE CORDAY."

MADAME LAFAYETTE.

This lady, the wife of a man whose history is blended with two important Revolutions, was a Marchioness before the late changes in France : the family name of her husband was also both spelled and pronounced differently, being then De la Fayette ; but the *de* being a mark of nobility, as having a feudal allusion—the French term it a *nom de terre*—it was, of course, omitted on the extinction of titles.

Mad. Lafayette is an eminent instance of the instability of greatness, the mutability of fortune, and the inefficacy of wealth. Descended from an ancient lineage, united to an amiable and illustrious husband, who possessed estates in Europe, America, and the West Indies ; she, nevertheless, has not been exempt from the most bitter calamities that can afflict suffering humanity.

When Lafayette resisted the commands of the sole remaining legitimate power in France, his "widowed wife" was arrested. Under the despotism of Robespierre, she escaped death only by a miracle—part of her family was actually immolated to his vengeance—but, what to some will appear more terrible, she experienced an unremitting captivity of fifteen months; during which she suffered all the horrors of a close confinement, being immured within four walls, subjected to a scanty and precarious diet, secluded from her children, and prohibited even from the light of heaven.

On the death of the tyrant, the voice of humanity was once more heard, and she was liberated, and restored to the arms of her afflicted daughters. But she was a wife as well as a mother, and her beloved husband was still in bondage! For he who had endeavoured to avert the execution of Louis XVI.—such is the gratitude of courts—was languishing in an Austrian prison!

She accordingly repaired to Hamburgh, accompanied by her children only; for she had not wealth sufficient to hire a single domestic; and she possesses a lofty spirit of independence, which taught her to reject pecuniary assistance, even from her few remaining friends. As soon as her health was a little restored, she set off for Vienna, and prostrated herself at the feet of the Emperor.

Francis III. is in the flower of his youth. The chilling hand of age has not yet rendered him morose; and, surely, *victory* cannot have blunted his feelings, and made him at once haughty and insensible!—No! no! there is not a prince of his house, from the obscure Count de Hapsburg of a former period, to the late powerful tenant of the Imperial diadem, who had more occasion to feel that he is but a *man*.

Weeping beauty did not supplicate in vain; the German Monarch raised her from her lowly pos-

ture, and promised better days. With his permission, she flew on the wings of affection; and, strengthened by conjugal love, knocked at the gate of the fortress that confined her dearly beloved husband, whose speedy deliverance (vain idea!) she hoped instantly to announce.

The massive bolts of the dungeon give way; the grating hinges of the iron doors pierce the ears; she and her virgin daughters are eyed, searched, rifled, by an odious and horrible goaler; and those who, but a moment before, deemed themselves deliverers, are now captives!

Reclining in the bottom of thy dungeon, these tears cannot be seen, these sighs cannot be heard; nor can the quick decay of youth and beauty, cankered in the bloom, and dissolving amidst the horrors of a German prison, be contemplated. But the heart of sympathy throbs for you, ye lovely mourners! the indignation of mankind is aroused; the present age shudders at your unmerited sufferings; and posterity will shed a generous tear at their recital. Anguish may not yet rend the bosoms of your persecutors, but a dreadful *fatality* waits them; and, were it possible to escape the scourge of offended Heaven, they will yet experience all the vengeance of indignant history!

BABOEUF.

Revolutions produce extraordinary characters, and elevate sometimes poor, and sometimes worthless men, to the highest and most eminent situations.

A proverb well known to the aristocracy of every country, although illiberal, and in general false, is nevertheless, on some particular occasions, true:—"When the pot boils, the *scum* gets to the top." Colonel Pride, born in a church porch, is a familiar instance of the justice of this, in our own histo-

ry ; and Babœuf, perhaps, in that of France. The first, who was bred a drayman, actually dissolved that house of commons which bridled Europe, and punished its own king ; the second, who under the *old government* is said to have worn a shoulder-knot, was but lately the leader of a formidable conspiracy, whose object is said to have been to murder the Directory, dissolve the Legislature, and new model France !

Babœuf is a native of one of the distant provinces ; from a footman he became clerk to a *procureur* ; and from that rose to be an attorney. His wife, at the same time, accompanied him from the kitchen to the parlour ; and as she had shared in his indigence, so she very justly partook of his prosperity. He practised in the country for some time ; and, if we are to give credit to his enemies, exhibited all the little tricks of a low petty-fogger. Certain it is, however, that he was fitted, by a series of imprisonments, and a long and intimate acquaintance with all the minute particulars of the Revolution, both to act and to suffer ; and there cannot be a doubt, but that he must have possessed some extraordinary talents, either in council or in action ; or else it is not to be supposed, that such men as Drouet, Robert Lindet, Antonelle, and Felix Lepelletier, would have chosen him for their leader.

Babœuf suffered a long confinement, without being put on his defence. He was, however, at length tried in great form before the High Court at Vendôme, May 26th, 1797, and executed next day. The candid and equitable proceedings of the Court on this occasion impressed the world for some time with a favourable idea of the security afforded by the new constitution to the life of a French citizen.

VERGNIAUX,

A native of Limoges, and one of the deputies

from Bourdeaux, was a most able orator ; in short, he was inferior, in point of eloquence, to no man who has appeared in France since Mirabeau.

He was a *Girondist* ; and, what is no common praise, in point of eloquence, may be placed at the head of the *Gironde*.

Like all the members of that celebrated and unfortunate party, he was actuated by a rooted hatred against the House of Austria, inspired by a full conviction of its perfidy : and he asserted in the Convention, “ that the rupture of the treaty of 1756, was as necessary to Europe, as the taking of the Bastille to France.”

It was he who made the memorable report in favour of *suspending*, instead of *dethroning* the King ; and he exposed himself on this occasion not only to the suspicions but the invectives of the inflamed Jacobins, of whom he predicted, “ that they would reign over dead bodies only.” Beholding Marat one day, very active in the Convention, he exclaimed—“ Give that cannibal a goblet of blood—he thirsts after it.”

On the memorable 10th of August, 1792, he occupied the President's chair ; and conducted himself with an uncommon dignity on that very critical occasion. He was gifted with a happy delivery, and an easy flow of words : this enabled him to speak on all subjects with ease, and without premeditation. But he was both indolent and negligent ; he despised mankind ; yet he loved Liberty, and died for it on a public scaffold, in 1793.

MARAT,

Short in stature, deformed in person, and hideous in face, was born at a little village, near Neuchâtel, in Switzerland.

This man or rather this monster, from the very beginning of the Revolution, evinced the most barbarous intentions. It was he who, at an early period of it and ere any blood had yet been shed, ut-

tered the execrable sentiment—"That three hundred thousand heads must be struck off before Liberty could be established!" This horrid expression, regarded at that time as a prophecy by the infatuated multitude, actually contributed to the assassinations that ensued.

If not the adviser, he was at least the apologist for the massacres of September. On that, and on every other occasion, where there was the least prospect of danger, he disappeared; and is said to have taken refuge in a subterraneous apartment, where he carefully secluded himself, till his own faction prevailed.

His disinterestedness, joined to his sufferings, had endeared him to the Parisians; for he lived in poverty, and was actually tried for his life before one of the tribunals, by which he was acquitted.

By turns the tool of Danton and Robespierre, he lived, as it were, the enemy of the whole human race, and died the victim of a woman's vengeance.

It is not to be denied, that Marat possessed some abilities, although they were disfigured by presumption, and obscured by passion. Previously to the Revolution, he passed through Switzerland to France, and resided for some time in England. He even distinguished himself as a man of letters, and acquired the reputation of considerable scientific attainments.

His first work was a treatise on "Light," which is acknowledged to possess merit. His next—"A Philosophical Essay on Man; being an Attempt to investigate the Principles and Laws of the reciprocal Influence of the Soul and Body," 2 vols. 8vo. London.

This publication, the second edition of which is now before the writer of this article, has the following motto prefixed to it:

O

"*Unde animi constet natura bibendum.*"—Lucret. de Nat. Rer.

It treats——

1. Of the human body, considered as the general organ of sense and motion ;
2. Of the human soul, and its faculties ;
3. Of the reciprocal influence of the soul and body ;
4. Of the influence of organization on the affections.

Marat, on this occasion, appears in the character not only of a metaphysician, but also of an anatomist ; and endeavours, by means of this union, to account for the various *phenomena* which had puzzled all preceding philosophers.

As a metaphysician, he tells us that " man, in common with all animals, is composed of two distinct parts, soul and body ;" and then adds—" I shall not stay here to prove a truth so well established : should any of my readers entertain the least doubt, he may dispense with reading my work ; it is not for such I write."

As an anatomist, he seems to have built many of his theories on actual experiment ; and appears delighted, when he speaks of " forcing the point of a lancet into a muscle, in order to render it paralytic—dividing a nerve, with a view to produce the same effect—puncturing the heart of a *living animal*, for the purpose of exciting contraction," &c. The following will, perhaps, be esteemed by some a curious passage, as it shews the *decision* with which the author pronounces on a controverted point——

" Anatomists agree, that we must look for the seat of the soul in the head ; but they are not unanimous as to what place it occupies in that part of the body. Some place it in the *pineal gland*, others in the *corpus collasum*, others again in the *cerebrum* ; some in the *cerebellum*, and some in the *meninges*.

But of these different opinions, the last only is well-founded; for, if we trace the nerves to their entrance into the membranes of the brain, we shall find they confound themselves with the *meninges*, and form one simple uniform substance with them.

“ Hence, if the nerves only are sensible, and if the sensations are not continued to the soul but by these organs, we plainly perceive that the meninges must be esteemed the seat of the soul. For as these membranes and their productions are the general organs of sensation, and as the soul is at the concurrence of all the sensations of the body, its seat must be in that part where this concurrence appears, viz. at the centre of all the organs of sensation: these membranes are this centre.

“ Experience likewise daily confirms it; the slightest inflammation of the meninges occasions a delirium, a temporary insanity. The irritation of the nerves, by the fumes of wine from drinking to excess, or by the fumes of tobacco, is followed by the irritation of the meninges, and the loss of reason: this never happens to any other part of the head.

“ The substance of the cerebrum and cerebellum may be taken from a living animal, without the soul’s being instantly affected; and though the wounds of the centre of the brain, of the pineal gland, and of the corpus callosum, sometimes injure the functions of the soul, it is not because the seat of the mind is in either of these parts; but because these parts secrete a fluid which is necessary to its operations, and by reason of the irritation which wounds in these parts communicate to the meninges.

“ In these membranes Eternal Wisdom has placed the soul, and united it to our organs by imperceptible bands; here it has fixed the seat of thought, of memory and of the will. vol. 1. p. 51.

While the *pia mater* and *dura mater*, are here pronounced to be the long sought for *seat of the soul*, we find the nervous fluid to be “the band which unites the soul and the body;” and learn, that “all voluntary motions are by the instantaneous influx of the nervous fluid into the muscles.”

The organization of the body, we are told, “determines the capacity of the mind, and renders man sagacious or dull, sedate or volatile, and the judgment clear or confused.” It is this which produces “the impetuous Æschylus, the agreeable Horace, the judicious Bacon, the profound Newton, the sagacious Montesquieu; in a word, every man owes the turn and character of his mind to the constitution of his body.”

The following passage, written many years before the event, recalls certain scenes, which afterwards became familiar to the mind of the writer, and at length hardened his heart to an astonishing degree of brutal insensibility——

“Such as are brought up in an excess of delicacy, and a continual habit of indulging themselves in every sort of pleasure, are not affected by the sufferings of others: their sensibility is constantly employed on themselves; they are altogether unconcerned about other beings; and their hearts are steeled against the sufferings of mankind. In proportion as this love of self increases, pity decays, and frequently becomes extinct.

“He who now melts into tears at the distresses of the unfortunate, were he his enemy, instead of alleviating would aggravate his misfortunes.

“Nero, who wished he had never learned to write, when pressed to sign a warrant for a criminal’s execution, could delight in the murder of his enemies. The tyrant, who loudly bewailed the fate of *Hecuba* and *Andromache* as represented on the stage, could hear without emotion the cries of those he had doomed to destruction.

" Pity is destroyed by the passions ; it is even generated in the heart only by prudent reflections, is nourished only by tender sentiments, and is wholly extinguished by the frequency of those objects which ought naturally to confirm it. Let us suppose a man has never heard any one discourse on ideas of justice, goodness, clemency, and generosity : he must remain for ever ignorant of the very names of those virtues.

" By a frequent attendance at those *bloody feasts*, which in some great cities are given by avarice to idleness, you will soon lose all sense of the strong emotions you had hitherto felt at the cries of mangled animals ; in time you will hear them with pleasure, and wait impatiently for a repetition of them. By frequenting such scenes, the soul becomes callous to impressions ; is unaffected with the prospect of human miseries, and insensible to every tender emotion.

" Do not these reasons prove that pity is not a native of the human breast ?" vol. 1. p. 144.

We are told, in another part, that a duck will run about several minutes after its head has been separated from its body ; that a viper or snake will move a considerable time, and flies a whole day, after undergoing the same operation ; but it is added, " that man, after decapitation," is scarcely seen to move !

The author had but too many opportunities to realize this last bloody theory by actual experiment ; and, all due respect to anatomists, it would appear that Marat's heart had become hardened by frequent dissections, and excruciating researches into the organization of animals !

MADAME ROLAND.

When some pretended sage of antiquity was la-

bouring hard to disprove the existence of motion, a philosopher of another sect, in all probability a *peripatetic*, arose, and by merely pacing up and down before him, tore to pieces the flimsy web in which he had enveloped himself, and entangled the understanding of his hearers. In like manner, while some of the *soi-disant* sages of modern times are denying all the nobler endowments of human nature to the fair-sex, a female now and then starts up, and passes along the stage of life, with a display of talents, and a dignity of demeanour, that ought to put these partial reasoners to silence.

Madame Roland was one of these women, of whom, no doubt, the number would be greater, if girls in general received an education like hers. Her father, M. Phlipon, a respectable engraver and jeweller, in Paris, instructed her in the arts analogous to his profession; while her mother, a woman of great prudence, and exquisite sensibility, inculcated the purest principles of virtue, and encouraged the fondness for literature, which she discovered at a very early age. Nor were either pains or masters spared to give her the customary accomplishments of her sex.

The prospect of a fortune, considerable for her station in life, a great share of beauty, and the fame of so many acquirements, attracted a whole host of suitors; and with two of them the negociation was carried to a great length. These were Gardanne, a physician, who has since distinguished himself in the walks of science, and la Blancherie, who needs no particular designation.—Who has not heard of the *Agent General of the correspondence for the advancement of the arts*? With the son of *Æsculapius*, the match was broken off by the indiscretion of M. Phlipon. The *Agent General*, after having been rejected by her father on account of his poverty, was finally dismissed by the lady herself, when she found

that he was so general an admirer of young women of fortune, as to be known, even in the circle of her own acquaintance, by the appellation of the lover of the *eleven thousand virgins*. Neither of these gentlemen had made any serious impression on her heart.—When speaking of the physician, she used to say that her fancy never could figure such a thing as love in a peruke. Her liking for la Blancherie was slight and superficial; but in the works she has left behind her, are repeated indications of a violent passion for some object which she is careful to conceal.

When she had attained her twentieth year, a stroke of the palsy deprived her of her mother. A long and dangerous illness brought on by her grief, was not the only misfortune that ensued from the loss of that amiable woman. Her father, having no longer the same domestic ties, gave himself up to habits of dissipation; formed connexions of an improper kind; and, to support the extraordinary expences they occasioned, engaged in commercial speculations foreign to his art. The event was the very reverse of his expectations. He not only beggared himself, but spent a great part of his daughter's fortune. Alarmed at the prospect of a total ruin, she collected all she could from the wreck; and, after making some further sacrifices to a parent's wants, retired to a convent, with an income of five hundred livres a-year. Upon this scanty annuity she subsisted in a state of dignified poverty and solitude, her only amusement and consolation being derived from books, and her food consisting entirely of aliments of the cheapest and most simple kind.

A few years before, she had become acquainted with M. Roland de la Platriere, a man of considerable talents and information, who held the place of Inspector of Manufactures at Amiens. His esteem

and friendship having gradually ripened into love, he demanded her in marriage of her father, when the latter was already fallen into decay. But M. Philippon, disliking the severity of his manners, rejected his proposal, with more insolence than even his former affluent circumstances would have warranted, and the treaty was broken off. M. Roland, however, renewed his visits and his offer at the grate of the convent; and was accepted, though his age was nearly double that of the lady, who had then completed her five and twentieth year.

Shortly after their marriage, he obtained his removal to Lyons, where he continued several years, passing the winters in town, and the summer months on his paternal estate in the vicinity. At length the Revolution came, and by depriving him of his place of Inspector, brought him to Paris, to devise new means for the improvement of his fortune. There he became acquainted with Brissot, Petion, and many other political characters; entered into the Jacobin Club under their auspices; and took upon himself a part of the correspondence of that society.

About two years after, the discontent of the nation at the apparently perfidious conduct of the ministers, having risen to an alarming height, Louis XVI. was prevailed upon to compose an administration of men of known and decided patriotism. In this arrangement Roland was included, the reputation of his talents and civic zeal pointing him out as a fit person to fill the place of Minister of the Interior; but he did not preserve it long.—The King, finding himself strenuously urged by his new counsellors to sanction decrees, of which the object was to stop the irruption of the foreign armies, and to repress the insolence of the conjuring priests, suddenly dismissed the whole of the ministry, except Dumouriez, whose spirit of intrigue helped to

drive his colleagues out of their places, and to keep him for some time longer in his own. This decree sealed the fate of the unfortunate monarch. The discontent of the people, which was in some measure sanctioned by his suspicious conduct, continued to increase, till it burst into a flame, that consumed every remaining vestige of royalty.

Upon the establishment of the Republic, Roland was again appointed Minister of the Interior; and while in that situation, was assisted in his patriotic labours by Madame Roland, as he had been before in his scientific pursuits. Many of the writings, which he published in his official capacity, were the offspring of her mind, and were remarkable for the force and beauty of the style.

This was made a subject of reproach to the Minister by the faction of the *Mountain*, who hated him on account of his attachment to the *Girondists*, and included him in the proscription that followed the famous 31st of May, when the whole of that party was impeached.

Roland found means to escape from Paris; but his wife, disdaining flight, was apprehended, and conveyed to the *Abbey*. After an imprisonment of several weeks, she was equally surprised and delighted to find herself released, and hastened home with a bounding heart; but scarcely had she set her foot upon the threshold, before she was arrested anew by the satellites of Robespierre, *in the name of the law*, and upon the vague charge of being "a suspicious person." Full of indignation at this proceeding, she took refuge in the house of her landlord, and prevailed upon his son to carry her claim of protection to the Committee of the Parish, which had declared it would suffer no arbitrary arrests. The performance of this kind office was fatal both to him and to his parent. The young man was shortly after dragged to the scaffold, and the

father died of grief !

The interference of the Committee was of no avail to Madame Roland. After the mortification of hearing that her enlargement was merely meant to afford a pretence for what was deemed a more legal commitment, she was sent to the convent of St. Pelagie, which had been converted into a goal.

Madame Roland bore her imprisonment with heroic fortitude ; calmly discussing, in a secret correspondence with her friends, the propriety of escaping from the violence of Robespierre's revolutionary monsters by a voluntary death ; and composing, in a very few weeks, with an almost incredible facility, two volumes, containing Historical Notices, Anecdotes, and her own private Memoirs.

The title which she gave them of an Appeal to Impartial Posterity, was not a vain one : they will long be a monument of her talents and virtues, and of the ferocious rage of the tyrants by whom she was persecuted. Writers of the first abilities, and of the most practised pens, may envy her the powerful manner in which she so aptly delineates men and manners, the felicity of her expressions, and the energy of her style. Her private memoirs are particularly valuable. No less interesting than the most ingenious works of fancy, they at the same time afford a favourable specimen of the habits and characters of French females, in the middle ranks of life. Our fashionable travellers, who only associated with the two extremes of prostitution in that country—the women of fashion, and the women of the town—have neither entertained, nor given, an idea of the modest virtues that lay without the sphere of their observation.

When Madame Roland approached the end of her career, and plainly perceived that her fate was inevitable, she used to speak of her approaching end

to her fellow prisoners with the greatest unconcern ; nor was her fortitude at any time diminished, unless when the idea of her husband, and of her only daughter, came across her mind. The woman then resumed the ascendancy !

Before the fatal tribunal to which she was at length dragged, she stood calm and composed, until one of her barbarous judges drew tears of indignation from her eyes, by asking her questions offensive to her virtue. It is unnecessary to say, that a sentence of death followed the vague and empty charge of conspiracy against the safety of the French Republic. On the day of trial, she wore a white dress, as a symbol of the purity of her mind ; and, after receiving judgment, passed through the grate of the prison with an alacrity that bespoke something like joy, indicating to her companions in misfortune, by an expressive gesture, that she was condemned to die. Though she was then in her thirty-ninth year, the beauty of her person was but little impaired.

At the place of execution, she conducted herself with her usual courage ; bowing down before the statue of liberty and pronouncing these memorable words—“ *O Liberty ! how many crimes are committed in thy name !*” As soon as the unfortunate Roland, who till then had lain concealed, heard of her death, he quitted his asylum, and shot himself upon a public road, that the friend, to whose courageous hospitality he was indebted, might not be exposed—a strong testimony of the worth of this extraordinary woman, upon whose like we can hardly hope to look again.

Had her vigorous opinions been followed by the Girondists, the liberty of the world would not have been checked by the infamy of Robespierre's proceedings. But it was the peculiar misfortune of her party, that while the only woman among them

was more than man, the men, generally speaking, were less than women!

MALESHERBES.

Christian William de Lamoignon Malesherbès was born on the 6th of December, 1721. At the age of twenty-four he became a Counsellor of Parliament, and six years afterwards Chief President of the *cour des aides*. He remained in that important situation during a period of twenty-five years; and displayed, on many occasions, uncommon proofs of firmness, eloquence, and wisdom.

When the Prince of Condé was sent by the King, in 1768, to silence the magistrates who opposed the taxes, Malesherbès replied to him—"Truth, Sir, must indeed be formidable, since so many efforts are made to prevent its approach to the throne." About the same time that he became President of the *cour des aides*, he was appointed by his father, then Chancellor of France, superintendant of the press—a department created for the express purpose of enslaving ideas, and *paralysing* genius and philosophy; but which, under the direction of Malesherbès, served only to extend and accelerate their progress. To him, France is indebted for the publication of the Encyclopædia, Rousseau's Works, and many others, which, at that period, contributed so rapidly to advance the stock of public knowledge. When learned men were brought before him in his official capacity to undergo examination, he appeared to them as advising, assisting, and protecting them, against that very power which was vested in himself; and they experienced in him, at once, a patron, a counsellor, and a father.

In 1775, he resigned the office of Chief President of the *cour des aides*, and was appointed Minister

and Secretary of State, in the room of La Vrilliere. Thus placed in the centre of a frivolous, yet brilliant court, Malèsherbès did not in the least deviate from his former simplicity of life and manners; but, in lieu of complying with the established etiquette which required magistrates, when they became ministers of state, to exchange their sable habit and head-dress for a coloured suit, bag-wig, and sword, he retained his black coat, and magisterial *peruke*!

As, when invested with the power designed to fetter the freedom of the press, it was his chief aim to encourage and extend that freedom; so, when raised to an office which gave him the unlimited power of issuing *lettres de cachet*, it was their total suppression that became the earliest object of his most ardent zeal. Till that time, being considered as a part of the general police, as well as of the royal prerogative, they were issued not only at the will of the minister, but even at the pleasure of a common clerk, or persons still more insignificant. Malèsherbès began by relinquishing for himself this absurd and iniquitous privilege. He delegated the right to a kind of board, composed of the most upright magistrates, whose opinion was to be unanimous, and founded upon open and well-established facts. He had but one object more to attain, & that was to substitute a legal tribunal in the place of that which he had established; and this object he was upon the point of accomplishing, when the intrigues of the Court procured the dismissal of the virtuous Turgot, and Malèsherbès, in consequence, resigned on the 12th of May, 1776.

After this epoch, he undertook several journeys into different parts of France, Holland, and Switzerland; where he collected, with zeal and taste, every kind of object interesting to the arts and sciences. As he conducted himself with the simplicity and œconomy of a man of letters, who had e-

merged from obscurity for the purpose of making observations and acquiring knowledge, he, by that means, was enabled to reserve his fortune for important occasions. He travelled slowly, and frequently on foot, that his observations might be the more minute; and employed part of his time in suitably arranging them. These observations formed a valuable collection of interesting matter relative to the arts and sciences: they were unfortunately almost wholly destroyed by the fury of some of those Revolutionists, who have done as much prejudice to the interests of science as of humanity.

Returning from his travels, Malesherbes, for several years, enjoyed a philosophic leisure, which he well knew how to direct to useful and important objects. The two most excellent treatises which he composed in the years 1785 and 1786, on the Civil State of the Protestants in France, are well known. The law which he proposed, on this occasion, was only preparatory to a more extensive reform; and these works were to have been followed up by another, the plan of which he had already laid: public affairs grew, however, too difficult to be managed by those who held the reins of government, and they were compelled to call him to their councils.

The court favourites did not assign to him the direction of any department, but introduced him merely—as subsequent events have shewn—to cover their transactions under a popular name, and pass them upon the world as acts in which he had taken part. Malesherbes accepted these overtures solely to satisfy the desire he felt to reveal some useful truths; but it was not for this purpose that he had been invited to the councils of the sovereign. Those who presided at them, took umbrage at his first efforts to recall their attention to the voice of truth and wisdom; and succeeded so well in their

opposition, that he was reduced to the necessity of delivering *in writing* the advice which he wished to offer. This was the origin of two treatises relative to the *calamities* of France, and the means of repairing them; he transmitted both these to the King, who never read either, and he was unable from that moment to obtain a private audience, although a minister of state.

Perceiving the inutility of his endeavours, disgusted with the repeated errors of government, and deprived of every means of exposing them, or preventing their fatal effects; after frequent solicitations, he at length obtained leave to retire. On this he repaired to his estate at Malesherbes, and from that moment entirely devoted his time to those occupations which had ever formed the chief pleasure of his life. He passed the evenings, and a great part of the night, in reading and study.

In this tranquil state, while enjoying himself amidst his woods and fields, an unforeseen event called him forth from his retirement. Louis the XVth was brought to the bar of the National Assembly as a criminal: abandoned by all those on whom he formerly had heaped his favours, he little expected to find a defender in him whom he had sacrificed to their intrigues; but Malesherbes considered the fallen monarch merely as an unfortunate man, and acted entirely according to the dictates of his native benevolence. He offered himself as an advocate, and his offer was accepted.

Having discharged this painful and hazardous duty, with firmness, moderation, and fidelity, he once more returned to his country residence, and resumed his tranquil course of life. But this tranquillity was of short duration. About a twelve month afterwards, in the month of December, 1793, three members of the Revolutionary Committee of Paris came to reside with him, his son-in-law, and his daughter, and apprehended the latter as criminals.

Left alone with his grand-children, Malesherbes endeavoured to console the rest of his unfortunate family with the hopes which he himself was far from entertaining. On the next day, the new-formed guards arrived to apprehend him, and the whole of his relations, even the infants. This circumstance spread a general consternation throughout the whole department. Four municipal officers had sufficient courage to convoy him, in order to insure his safety, and even to accompany him and his family, on purpose to avoid the humiliating sight of an armed force.

In this calamity Malesherbes preserved the undisturbed equanimity of virtue. His affability and good humour never forsook him, and his conversation was as usual serene; so that to have beheld him—without noticing his wretched guards—it would have seemed that he was travelling for his pleasure with his neighbours and friends. He was conducted the same night to the prison of the *Madelonnettes*, with his grandson Louis Lepelletier, and his other grandchildren were sent to different prisons.

This separation proving extremely afflicting to him, he protested against it; and at length, on his repeated entreaties, they all met together once more at Port-Libre. They remained there, however, but a short period. The son-in-law of Malesherbes, the virtuous Lepelletier-Rasambo, the first of them who was arrested, was ordered into another goal, and sacrificed a few days after. Malesherbes himself, his daughter, his grand-daughter and her husband, were all brought to the guillotine. They approached it with fortitude and serenity. It was then that his daughter addressed these pathetic words to Mademoiselle Sombreuil, who had saved the life of her parent on the 2d of September—“You have had the exalted honour to preserve

your father—I have, at least, the consolation to die with mine."

Maleherbes, still the same, even in his last moments, exhibited to his relations an example of fortitude. He conversed with the persons that were near him, without bestowing the least attention on the brutalities of the wretches who tied his hands. As he was leaving the prison to ascend the fatal cart he stumbled against a stone, and made a false step—"See," said he smiling, "how bad an omen! A Roman in my situation would have been sent back again." He passed through Paris, ascended the scaffold, and submitted to death with the same unshaken courage. He died at the age of seventy-two years, four months, and fifteen days. He had only two daughters; and the son of one of them—Louis Lepelletier, a young man of the fairest promise—alone remains to succeed him.

HERAULT DE SEHELLES.

Few men made a greater, & it may be added a more respectable figure in the French Revolution, during the six months previous to, & as many after, the fall of the Brissotines, than Hérault de Séchelles. He was of a rich and distinguished family, which had given him a liberal education; and was ennobled, independently of his patent place, as Advocate General of the Parliament of Paris. He was born in the capital, and was chosen a deputy for that department to the National Convention. He enjoyed a considerable fortune of his own, and in addition to this, he had very considerable expectations from a wealthy uncle, greatly advanced in years.

The fall of Hérault is not, perhaps, wholly to be ascribed to the political sins imputed to him: he was unquestionably a Republican in his heart; but,

from a vanity which may be considered as natural, he paid too much regard to the character he had acquired of being what the French term *un joli garçon*. Thus, though his language was never incompatible with the austerities of the newly-adopted government, yet his dress was, by many, tho't highly inconsistent with it; and frequent sarcasms were thrown out against him on this subject, by his fellow deputies, who made it a point to dress as much as possible *en Jacobin*.

However unpardonable this offence against the exterior of republicanism might appear in the eyes of those shallow-minded reformers, who confound its attributes with its essence, others at that time considered it as a *peccadillo* only, and fixed upon him as the most proper person to open a communication with foreign powers for obtaining a peace. The Committee of Public Welfare accordingly distinguished him by the appellation and authority of *diplomatic member*. In this capacity he made various fruitless efforts to treat with two of the states combined against the infant Republic; but such were the haughty and overbearing tone and conduct of the league, at that period, that every overture was rejected with a disdain as rash as it has since proved puerile.

When those jealousies became general, which may be considered as the natural concomitants of a Revolution like that of France, and they who were in the secret of his designs, had conceived projects which they were sure Hérault would not join in; they converted the means he had adopted for founding the hostile cabinets, and especially that of Great Britain, into suspicions, and charges of compromising the honour of his country.

Another act, unsupported however by proofs, was imputed to him, which could not fail greatly to injure his reputation: it was, that he had employed more than one agent to vest a considerable

sum in the English funds. The circumstances of his speaking our language, and associating greatly with the English in Paris, gave colour to these surmises. Herault had not only failed in every endeavour at pacification ; but the war, at this precise time, took a peculiarly unfavourable turn : several of the strong garrison towns fell into the hands of the allies ; and these circumstances were, by the enemies of the diplomatic member, attributed to Herault's complaisance, and to the symptoms of weakness which he had betrayed in his offers for accommodation.

In collisions of parties of this kind, the least popular is sure to fall. While Robespierre and Couthon were flattering the powerful Jacobins in their hall, and the facile people in the tribunes of the Convention, Herault was inconsiderately trifling his time in the company of a *chère amie* and her mother, whom he had gallantly conducted to Paris, on his return from Chambery, whither he had been sent on a commission, and on which expedition he was accompanied by the celebrated American Joel Barlow.

The envious foes of Sechelles had a great advantage over him, in the people's eyes ; since, while they were seen walking on foot to the club of the *Jacobins*, or other popular societies, he was discovered in a *tete-a-tete* with a fair lady, at a splendid house in the Boulevards, or peeping through the glass of a gilded chariot. These were scenes which, however tolerated a short time before, could not be looked on with composure by the stern eyes of Republicans, especially by those who considered themselves such *par excellence*. Thus the very man who had, a few weeks before, presented the plan of a new constitution to the Convention, and had presided in the Field of Mars on the day appointed for its formal acceptance, was now treated as a suspected person by his colleagues in the gov-

ernment-committee ; inſomuch that when Barrere, on the 17th of March, 1794, announced to the Convention that Hérault had been arreſted, it appeared that he had not, for ſeveral weeks, aſſiſted at its councils.

Above half a million of people had lately looked up to Hérault, on the elevated altar of Liberty, and done homage to him, as perſonifying the new democratic conſtitution ; he was now, ſad reverse ! about to be ingloriouſly ſacrificed on an ignominious ſcaffold !

Danton, the famous leader of another party, had been taken up the evening before Hérault, by order of the ſame Committee ; and, as ſuch violent factions give but little breathing time to their antagoniſts, when the favourable moment arrives for directing a blow with effect, the accuſed were bro't to trial on the third day ; and, to the ſurpriſe of a great many, the *act d'accuſation*—indictment—charged them with conſpiring together to overturn the National Convention, to re-eſtabliſh royalty in France, and to maſſacre the Committee of Public Welfare. There are times when the *ipſe dixit* of a popular orator is ſufficient to condemn any obnoxious character to public odium. The corrupt ſervility of the Revolutionary Tribunal ſtudied and obeyed the will of the few in power, who now appeared to have perpetuated their authority. The judge and jury, therefore, after the moſt inconſiſtent accuſation and evidence, condemned Hérault de Sechelles, and the other designated conſpirators, to die by the guillotine. This the new tyrants called the *ſecond weeding* of the Republican garden ; which work, if they had been allowed to have proceeded in their own way, would doubtleſs have ended in converting it into a deſert, for the chace and pleaſure of one or two deſpots.

Hérault, Danton, Chabot, Phillippeaux, and five others, were, on the 5th of April, conveyed in three

carts to the place of execution ; compelled to wear the scarlet shirt, the opprobrious badge of treason. They suffered in the presence of an immense multitude ; among whom, many did not fail to express their doubts concerning the justice of the sentence, and the truth of the charges.

Herault, who was but thirty years of age, possessed a handsome person and pleasing address. He spoke with considerable energy when before the Tribunal ; and told the people, as he ascended the platform of the guillotine, that they would soon distinguish their enemies from their friends. It was pretty generally believed that a rescue would have been attempted, as some hundreds of the society of the Cordeliers, women as well as men, had entered into an engagement to that effect. Robespierre, however, by means of his *mouchards*, was apprized of the design, and frustrated it, by ordering the execution sooner than it was expected to happen.

When Herault was in danger of being arrested by a mandate of the tyrant Robespierre, a friend of his, M. Thyerry, a foreigner of liberal education, and of respectable character, offered him a secure retreat in Switzerland ; and a passport, in a fictitious name, from the agent of Basle residing at Paris. Herault thanked him for his kindness ; and heroically added—“ *I would gladly accept of your offer, Citizen, if I could carry my native country with me.*”

Herault de Sechelless was esteemed so good a writer, that he was appointed to compose, in conjunction with St. Just, the constitution of 1793. That constitution is, in consequence, very elegantly written, and is considered, by men of letters in France, as a pattern of style for a code of civil law. He was also the author of a work upon Declamation ; and of a pamphlet respecting the private life of the great Buffon.

ROBESPIERRE.

The very name of Robespierre excites a variety of disagreeable sensations—wonder, rage, horror, and revenge, occupy the bosom by turns. Of his countrymen, some claim a murdered parent, others their mangled sons and daughters; the husband his bleeding wife; the wife her decollated husband. France, converted into a charnel-house under his administration, beheld more than an hundred thousand of her children proscribed, starved, expatriated, assassinated and cut off, either with or without the forms of law! The Patriot and the perfidious Citizen—The Republican and the Royalist—the Anarchist and the Lover of Order—all equally experienced his hatred, and perished by his deadly enmity. Never did Liberty suffer more than by his hypocritical attachment: never did despotism receive so much consolation as arose from his cruelties. Tyranny brandished her whips, and shook her chains, from Moscow to Algiers; and boasted, with a perfidious triumph, her milder empire!

Maximilian Robespierre was born in 1759, within the walls of the city of Arras, the capital of the *ci-devant* province of Artois. The Royalists, as if fiction had been necessary to render his memory more detestable, pretend that he was the nephew of that Damiens who assassinated Louis XV. It is but justice, on the contrary, to state, that his family was both ancient and respectable; for his progenitors had occupied some of the higher departments of the magistracy, and appertained to that class formerly termed *la noblesse de la robe*.

His father was an Advocate of great knowledge and purity of manners; but, as œconomy was not among his virtues, his two sons and a daughter inherited nothing from him but his poverty. His unfulfilled reputation, however, proved serviceable

to his family ; for a relation undertook the maintenance of the female, and the two boys had the good fortune to be protected, or rather adopted, by the Bishop of Arras.

Maximilian, the elder brother, was accordingly educated under the immediate inspection of this Prelate, who, doubtless, instilled excellent principles into his mind ; but malice, always active, and always uncharitable, has traced to this very source that consummate hypocrisy which distinguished his pupil through life, and which it is pretended, he could have only acquired under the tuition of a priest !

At a proper age, young Robespierre was sent to the college of Louis le Grand, a famous seminary, formerly under the direction of the Jesuits. There he distinguished himself by his assiduity and talents, and bore away the annual prizes from all competitors of his own class.

This—and it must be allowed to have been a very honourable one—was the only distinguishing characteristic of his youth ; for it is allowed, that he did not develope even the germ of those passions which influenced his bosom in his more advanced years, and rendered him not only the scourge of his country, but of mankind. Paschal, amidst the silence of his prison, meditated on Euclid ; and Voltaire chalked the first lines of his *Henriade* on the walls of his dungeon : but Robespierre did not discover his future destiny by anticipation ; and it was the opinion of the professors, that his reputation would never extend beyond the walls of the college in which he had been educated.

At the age of seventeen, it was determined that he should be bred to the bar ; and his friends, judging from his early success, already imagined that he would dispute the palm of eloquence with the first lawyers of France. He was accordingly committed to the care of M. Ferrieres, nephew to an

Advocate of the same name, who had distinguished himself by an excellent treatise on Jurisprudence.

It is asserted, however, that notwithstanding the repeated admonitions of that gentleman, Maximilian could never be prevailed upon to pay any degree of attention to his professional studies. Incapable of application, disgusted with the slightest difficulties, he is *said* to have acquired an antipathy to knowledge, and to have sworn a deadly enmity both to learning and learned men.

It was at first determined that he should practise before the Parliament of Paris, but this scheme was never carried into execution; for he returned to his native province, and was admitted an Advocate in the Superior Council of Artois.

We do not find that he distinguished himself there by his eloquence; and have every reason to suppose that he would never have risen above mediocrity, or been noticed in the crowd of provincial pleaders, had not an uncommon concurrence of circumstances elevated him to a situation in which the eyes of all Europe were fixed upon him. He, however, made himself known as an Author, if not as an Advocate; for he published two treatises about this time, in one of which he explained the principles of Electricity, and removed the vulgar prejudices that prevailed respecting *conductors*, the erection of which was opposed by the ignorant, under the pretence that they were impious, and better calculated to produce destruction than ensure safety.

The other was on Death, considered as a punishment. In this, all the modern governments were justly reproached for the sanguinary laws still prevalent in their criminal codes, and doubts were hinted, as to the right claimed by society of cutting off the life of an individual.

No sooner had the letters of convocation to the States General been issued, than Robespierre deter-

mined to become a candidate. He proved successful in his endeavours ; and was, accordingly, nominated one of the representatives of his native province. He is said to have drawn up the *Cahiers*, or Instructions ; by means of which the Electors were accustomed to regulate the conduct of their deputies.

In the National Assembly, he sat and voted with the *cote gauche*, or patriotic side ; and was sometimes confounded with the *Orleanists*, and sometimes with the *Constitutionels*. The former wished to place Philip on the throne of Louis ; the latter were zealous for the adoption of the English Constitution. It is no less true than singular, however, that Robespierre remained in the greatest obscurity during the first legislature ; and was considered as a passionate, hot-headed young man, whose chief merit consisted in his being warmly and sincerely attached to the cause of Liberty.

It was, he, however, who first brought the term *Aristocrat* into common use. This occurred on Thursday, Nov. 19, 1790 ; when a deputation from a corporation in the *Cambresis*, having complained at the bar, of some abuses, the Deputy from Arras ascended the tribune, and exclaimed, that the petitioners deserved no favour, being themselves (*un corps aristocratique*) an *aristocratical* body. The Assembly burst into a fit of laughter on the mention of this word : it, however, soon produced far different sensations !

It was about this time that he became the editor of a journal entitled *L'Union, ou Journal de la Liberte*. The Royalists, who accuse him of gross ignorance, enumerate, with exultation, the geographical, political, and even grammatical blunders daily exhibited in this newspaper. It is allowed by every one, that it was conducted with extreme violence, and displayed but little taste or genius. Indeed, the

exaggerating disposition of the editor had brought him into some degree of contempt ; and it was at that time customary to remark, with a kind of satirical eulogium—*que Mirabeau étoit le flambeau de la Provence, and Robespierre la chandelle d'Arras !*—that Mirabeau was the flambeau of Provence, & Robespierre the candle of Arras ! This much is certain, that he never was elected into any of the Committees, or honoured with the President's chair in the First Assembly.

To the Society of the Jacobins, Robespierre is indebted for all his celebrity, and all his power. He became their chief ; and it was the members of this body who first propagated the idea, “ that the Assembly had ruined France, and Robespierre could alone save it !”

It is but candid here to confess, that the early part of his conduct in the Legislative Body was pure and unspotted ; that he stedfastly opposed the interested revision of the constitution, and withstood every temptation arising from the corruption so prodigally administered by the court. Alas ! this very circumstance, in the end, rendered him more dangerous to Liberty, and the surname of *Incorruptible*, enabled him to sacrifice all his real or supposed enemies to his vengeance.

Robespierre did not refuse to fill subordinate offices, as has been asserted : he, however, did not retain them any considerable time. He was first nominated President of the Tribunal of the district of Versailles ; and was consequently empowered to decide both in civil and criminal affairs, as the juries had not been then organized. Having resigned this employment, he next obtained that of *Accusateur Public* to the Criminal Tribunal of the department of Paris, which he also held but for a short period. His conduct in the exercise of these functions stands unimpeached ; no one instance of cruelty or injustice has been adduced by the bitterest

of his enemies ; and had the court but proved faithful to that constitution, from which it could not recede without the foulest perjury, Robespierre would never have been elevated to the Dictatorship !

It was during the National Convention, that this man attained the summit of his ambition. In the first Legislature, he joined the patriots ; in the second, he declared for the *Republicans* : in both his party proved finally victorious. It was in the third, that he himself was doomed to triumph, not only over his rivals, but his country.

The *Commune* of Paris, the Jacobin Society, and even the Assembly itself, were filled with his creatures, and became obedient to his commands. In short, the nation looked up to him as to a saviour.

No sooner, however, had he attained the giddy eminence of power, than his nature seems to have experienced a total change ; and Robespierre, like many others, here affords a memorable instance of the effects of sudden elevation in debasing the human mind, by making it ferocious. Rendered cruel by habit and suspicion, both Royalists and Republicans equally experienced his vengeance ; a number of the first were cruelly butchered in prison ; and of the latter, Brissot, Vergniaux, Gensonne, Valaze, &c. &c. fell by the guillotine ; while the Ex-Minister Roland, and the celebrated Ex-Secretary Condorcet, were reduced to the melancholy necessity of putting themselves to death. In the *Girondists* perished nearly all that was great and amiable in France. In Madame Roland fell the first female genius of her age ; in the person of her husband, virtue itself was outraged ; while, in the executions of Condorcet, Lavoisier, and Bailly, science received a mortal and irrecoverable stab.

The proscriptions of Sylla and Marius were once more renewed in the most polished country of modern Europe, and in an age, too, boastful of its studied refinements. *Suspected persons*, or, in other

words, every one either dreaded or hated by those in power, were arrested : *domiciliary visits* awakened the sleeping victims of persecution to misery and destruction ; while *Revolutionary Tribunals* condemned them in scores, unpitied and even unheard. The laws were no longer maintained ; the idea of a constitution became intolerable ; all power was concentrated, as among the eastern nations ; the government degenerated into a Turkish Divan : it was the *Committee of Public Safety* that regulated every thing, that absolved or tried, that spoiled or enriched, that murdered or saved ; and this Committee was entirely regulated by the will of Robespierre, who governed it by means of his creatures, St. Just and Couthon.

He reserved for himself, however, the immediate superintendence of the *Revolutionary Tribunals* ; and was accustomed at night to mark down the victims who were to perish before the setting of the morrow's sun.

The execution of four or five a day did not satiate his vengeance ; the murder of thirty or forty was demanded, and obtained : the streets became deluged with blood : canals were necessary to convey it to the Seine ; and experiments were actually made at the Bicetre with an instrument for cutting off half a score heads at a single motion !

At length, the tyrant began to be dreaded even by his own accomplices ; and all parties seem to have cordially united in the destruction of a man, during whose life they themselves were exposed to the most imminent dangers. A circumstance, similar to what occurred to a famous despot of antiquity, is said to have accelerated his fate ; for the Committee of Public Safety, having found a long roll of proscriptions on one of his creatures, who had been arrested by mistake, they are reported to have discovered their own names inscribed in the bloody register.

The storm first burst in the Convention. Billaud, Panis, Freron, Cambon, Tallien, and Vadier, accused him of his crimes to his face; Barrere and Collet overwhelmed him with reproaches; and the abashed traitor himself is said to have called out for death.

While the Legislature were exercising a grand act of national justice, the Municipality founded the *tocsin*, and many members of the Jacobin Club marched to the succour of their chief. By turns a prisoner and a leader, vanquished and triumphant, he was at length seized in an apartment of the town-house, and pierced with wounds.

On the morning of the 10th Thermidor (July 28, 1794,) he was led to execution, amidst the execrations of the people, with one eye hanging out of the socket, and his lower jaw attached to the upper by means of a handkerchief. It had been separated by a musket ball.

Thus perished Maximilian Robespierre, in the thirty-fifth year of his age. His character does not possess the least resemblance to any of the illustrious ruffians of antiquity, who have been rendered memorable either by their crimes or their exploits. Sylla and Marius, bred up to arms, and inured to warfare, were both brave to excess. Julius, before he crossed the Rubicon, and became the tyrant of his country, had displayed uncommon personal courage on many occasions. Even the luxurious Anthony, and the vile Augustus—the latter of whom it has been too long the fashion to praise—were at times capable of exhibiting instances of intrepidity. Cataline, in the very hour of his death, was terrible; for his mutilated corpse was surrounded by heaps that had perished by his own hand. But Robespierre was a base coward, who on all occasions was solicitous for his own safety, and trembled like a woman at the very idea of danger. He

was bold only in words and gestures :—" *Ignavissimus quisque, et ut res docuit, in periculo non ausurus, nimii verbis, linguæ feroces.*"

On the 10th of August, he hid himself as usual, and only came out of his lurking hole to claim the triumphs of that memorable day. Even on the 1st, 2d, and 3d of September, he is said to have been concealed, until he could safely reap all the advantages of the barbarous murders committed by his partisans. It was then he made his appearance, it was then he realised the horrid picture of Cicero :—" *Vultus ipsius plenus furoris, oculi sceleris, sermo arrogantia.*"

The person of Robespierre was below the middle size ; the temperament of his body was nervous and irritable ; and he had something hideous in his aspect, which was greatly increased by means of a pair of green spectacles. This acquired him the appellation of *the Dragon* : that of the *Basilisk* would, perhaps, have been more appropriate.

He affected to be called a *Sans-Culotte* ; but his clothes were always chosen with taste ; and his hair was constantly dressed and powdered, with a precision that bordered on foppery. He was but an indifferent orator ; for his person, voice, and provincial accent, militated against the grand characteristics of eloquence. He was generally deficient also in point of composition ; his speech on the trial of Louis XVI. is, however, an exception. That on the *recognition* of the Supreme Being, is said to have been written by a member of one of the *ci-devant* Academies.

It was the idea of his virtue, and confidence in his principles, that procured him the unbounded esteem of a corrupt age. Until intoxicated with power, his conduct and morals must be allowed to have been unimpeachable. While a private man, he exhibited virtues that seemed to render him worthy of command ; and it was not until he was

vested with supreme authority, that, like the *deified* Cæsars of ancient times, he threw off the character of humanity, and became a demon. He was never a Republican; for the idea of a Commonwealth, like that of a limited monarchy, supposes a restraint on governors, as well as on the governed; and, if we are to believe an illustrious woman, basely murdered by him, he was accustomed to sneer on the mention of the term, and ask what it meant?

MIRABEAU, JUN.

Was the brother of the celebrated orator of the same name, and the favourite son of the famous Mirabeau, the author of the treatise *L'Ami des Hommes*, of whom the French ladies were accustomed, after his quarrel with his countess, to say, that he could not pretend to be *l'ami des femmes*.

The younger, commonly called *Le Vicomte de Mirabeau*, was the darling of his father, who, in his will, exhibited a partiality to him, that bordered on injustice: the consequence was a law-suit; and a deadly enmity between the two children.

A similar contention took place relative to their politics: the one was the advocate of the people; the other of the king. The elder Mirabeau, at the commencement of his political career, seemed fitted for Rome and Athens in their best days; the younger, had he been a Greek by birth, would have left a country in which all were free, to become the satrap of a Persian court, where all but a privileged class are slaves.

They were both men of strong passions. The one gave vent to his fiery temperament in the delirium of play, and a boundless attachment to the fair sex; the other, termed *tonneau*, a nick-name he had obtained from the resemblance of his body to a cask—(it was generally filled with the contents of one)—had recourse to the charms of the bottle, a

vice always deemed disgraceful in France, and which indeed ought to be scouted in every civilized state.

While one brother was preparing the way for a commonwealth in his native country, the other was sustaining the declining cause of monarchy in Germany, at the head of a body of emigrants, termed *Les Chasseurs de Mirabeau*. When he once got into a tavern, he never left it unless either the wine or his own credit was exhausted. This, joined to his corpulent habit, soon put an end to his existence; and his countrymen, as usual, made his death a subject of merriment, as may be seen from the following

“ Epitaph de Riquetti—Mirabeau—Tonneau.

*“ Ci-git Mirabeau la Futaille;
 “ Sancho Panca des émigrés;
 “ Ce héros d'estoc & de taille
 “ Fit maint exploits tous célèbres
 “ Par la noblesse & la pretraille.
 “ Hélas ! ce rude champion,
 “ La surveillance d'une bataille,
 “ Frappe d'une indigestion,
 “ Gissant le long d'une muraille,
 “ A la porte d'une cabaret,
 “ Il rendit son dernier hoquet,”*

The Viscount was allowed, even by his enemies, to have been a brave man, a qualification which even the friends of the orator could not always boast of in respect to him. Happening to be wounded in a duel, Mirabeau Tonneau received a visit of condolence from the patriot, and on his being about to depart, satirically observed to the latter, “ Brother, I am afraid you will never permit me to return the compliment.”

A comedian on the stage, a tragedian in power. This same *Collot*, as he was familiarly called by the Parisians, is assuredly one of the most extraordinary men the present age has witnessed. After throwing off the *sock*, and taking his leave of two or three excellent theatrical pieces, in which he himself had acted, he repaired to Paris; and being possessed of a good figure, a strong voice, great energy, wonderful intrepidity, and uncommon address, he speedily became one of the oracles of the Jacobin Club.

From this society he obtained the prize for the best Manuel of Liberty, by his "*Almanac du Pere Gerard*."

It was the fashion, at one time, to idolize Lafayette, and call him (*le pere*) the father of the revolution; but Collot, who affirmed he had been intriguing with the queen, out of mere enmity to M. d'Egalite, contrived to get him called its *step-father*; (*le beau pere*) and this was no trifling achievement in the time of civil contention; for, at Paris, and even in London, much is done by means of a *sobriquet*, or nick-name.

On the first day of the meeting of the Convention, he was the member who moved for the abolition of Royalty; which motion was seconded by Gregoire, and carried by acclamation. On the trial of the King, he was perched on the very *summit of the Mountain*, being placed next to Robespierre. During the contest between the two parties, it was he who denounced and proscribed the Girondists. When the crimes of Robespierre had attained their full growth of enormity, it was Collot, who, on the 9th of Thermidor, as president of the Convention, joined Barrere in impeaching and punishing him!

Collot d'Herbois was the most active member of the famous Committee of Public Safety. Such was the excess of his zeal in what he conceived to be the service of his country, that he was known to pass fifteen days and nights successively, at the office of

the Committee, without leaving it even for the purposes of sleep and refreshment. His dinner frequently consisted only of a slice of bread and butter. He was the most vehement of the Jacobin party, and the most bloody of the Terrorists. His conduct, on numerous occasions, justly procured him the epithet of *Tiger-Collet*. From his firing upon the Royalists at Lyons, with grape-shot from cannon, he was also called *le mitrailleur*.

In consequence of unsheathing the sword of the exterminating angel at Lyons, he experienced a kind of modern *ostracism*; but, instead of a punishment, it was a triumph, for he had not been a week at Cayenne, before he was actually said to have possessed a greater share of authority in the settlement than the governor himself. He has even been lately denounced by one of the colonial deputies, as *le roi de Cayenne*, but no attention whatever was paid to the observation.

After appearing in such a variety of different characters, this singular man, whatever may be his final catastrophe, has insured to himself a niche in the Temple of History; and, if ever his atrocious massacres in the south be forgotten, his memory will, perhaps, be honoured, and even revered; for he must be allowed to have been one of the founders of the French Republic, & also one of its most strenuous supporters. He has several times been reported to have been dead, but we believe this rumour has no foundation in truth. He is about fifty years of age.

PÉRIGORD DE TALLEYRAND.

The Abbe Perigord de Talleyrand, *ci-devant* bishop of Autun, in Burgundy, is descended from one of the most illustrious families in France, a house coeval with monarchy, and related, by the

female line, with that of Bourbon. A disaffected clergyman, in a pamphlet against religious innovations, endeavoured to injure the Bishop, by styling him "*The atheist priest, who disgraces the name of Perigord.*"

As the Bishop of Autun was, by birth and dignity, enabled to exercise much authority over the inferior clergy in the Assembly, so he was endowed with uncommon talents, knowledge and activity, to support his situation. He also possessed frequent opportunities of evincing his superior learning.

His celebrated Reports made in the name of the Constitutional Committee, on the subject of Public Instruction, on the 10th, 11th, and 12th of September, 1791, were afterwards printed, by a decree of the Assembly.

M. Perigord, or as he is now called, M. Talleyrand, in his capacity of a revolutionary patriarch, was appointed by the municipality of Paris to officiate pontifically in the splendid ceremony of the National Confederation, on the 14th of July, 1790, in the *Champ de Mars*. He appeared at the head of more than two hundred priests, dressed in white linen, and adorned with tri-coloured ribands. When about to officiate, a storm of wind took place, followed by a deluge of rain; he proceeded, however, in the celebration of the mass, without any regard to that event, and afterwards pronounced a benediction on the royal standard of France, and on the eighty-three banners of the departments which waved around it, before the altar.

In the civil constitution of the clergy, it was decreed, that, according to the ancient discipline of the church, the consecration of Bishops, in France, should for the future be performed by the metropolitans, and other Bishops. This regulation was a fatal blow to the court of Rome, and it required the firmness of mind peculiar to Talleyrand to carry it into execution. He was the only episcopal dignita-

ry who offered to consecrate the new constitutional bishop of Versailles. This brought forth the famous monitory from the Pope, of the 13th of April, 1791, who complained loudly against the Bishop of Autun, as an impious wretch, who had "imposed his sacrilegious hand on the *intruding* candidate."

A man like M. Talleyrand, who had relinquished all the prejudices of his rank and order, could not fail to create many enemies. Lampoons, pamphlets, &c. flocked against him from every quarter. The chapter, and the secular and regular clergy of Autun, exhorted their chief to return to the faith of his forefathers: the canons of another diocese wrote a periodical work, entitled, *La Secte des Talleyrandistes*; and a clergyman, who was also a good poet, terminated one of his odes with these two lines:

" *Un Gregoire a tete idiote,
Et un Autun Antichretien.*"

These attacks might have been the result of the hatred conceived by the highest ranks of society against the bishop, on account of his patriotism—The truth, however, is, that he incurred some censures from the patriots also. He was charged with being a friend to the Revolution, only because he had led an irregular life previously to it, and had a great many debts to discharge; and it was insinuated, that he received immense sums from the Court, to exert his authority over his colleagues to obtain for the King the *absolute veto*.

Soon after the conclusion of the Constituent Assembly, M. de Talleyrand was sent to England, in the capacity of a secret negociator, either to avert the war, or conclude an alliance between Great-Britain and France. He was compelled, however, in a short time, to leave this country, in consequence of the alien bill. The increasing system of terror, in France, and a report that some documents had been found in the Thuilleries, after the 10th of Au-

gust, relative to the bribes paid by the Court, on account of the *veto*, prevented him from returning thither, and he set sail for America.

In 1795, as soon as the Convention had passed a law for recalling those emigrants who had fled from it after the 2d and 3d of September, he transmitted a petition to the Committee of Public Safety, requesting permission to return, and early in the next year he arrived in France.

He was appointed first a member, and, soon afterwards, one of the secretaries to the National Institute in Paris. In one of the public sittings of the last winter, he presented a memoir, proving the necessity of a new commercial treaty with the American States: the Paris papers stated, that this dissertation was the result of his inquiries on the spot, during two years' residence, and that it contained a great many new observations relating to the future prosperity of the Republic.

On the dismissal of C. la Croix, in June last, Talleyrand was appointed Minister for Foreign Affairs; and, if we are to give credit to a French periodical writer, a very laughable scene took place, in the hall of the Directory, soon after his nomination to the ministry. "*The Bishop of Autun (says the journalist) with his blue national uniform, and sabre, presented to his masters, one morning, the envoy of the Pope, and the ambassador of the Grand Signor.*"

The conduct of the *Ex-Abbe*, in a recent negotiation with the American Minister, has exposed him to great censure, more especially as X. Y. Z. appear to have been known to him, and, if we are to give credit to the hitherto unimpeached honour of one of the Plenipotentiaries, acted under his immediate direction.

It appears, indeed, from a letter, published most probably at his own request, that the subject of a

loan was started by the minister himself ; and surely the idea of a FREE STATE purchasing forgiveness by means of Batavian inscriptions, is a very equivocal specimen of political morality !

JOSEPH LEBON,

Whose cruelties at Arras, and in the northern departments of France, rivalled those of the sanguinary Carrier on the coasts of the ocean, was originally a priest of the Oratory.

He was afterwards professor of rhetoric, either at Beaune or Dijon, in Burgundy ; and vicar (*cure*) in the department by which he was elected a member of the convention.

In this situation, his fanaticism brought on so outrageous a fit of madness, that it was necessary to chain him down during his cure. At the Revolution, he had discarded all the tenets of the Catholics, and assumed the title of priest of the Almighty, which he also laid aside ; at last he professed himself openly an Atheist. Such was the singular progress of religious opinions in this sanguinary monster !

It was not till he was sent as commissioner of the legislative body, into the department of the North, that he discovered that atrocious disposition, of which the following words, in a letter to the district of St. Omer, exhibit an early indication :—
“ Do not let a single rich man, or a man of sense, escape imprisonment, unless he has shown himself a strong and early friend to the Revolution.”

In the popular societies he used to say—“ *Sans culottes*, it is for you that we guillotine : if the guillotine be stopped, you will be destitute of every thing—you will starve. It is high time for the *sans culottes* to supplant the rich.” His affection for the poor was, however, entirely forgotten, when, by the following curious mandate, he ordered all the

inhabitants of the village of which he had been vicar, to be sent to gaol :

“ In the name of the French people, Joseph Lebon, charges the municipal officers of Neuville-la-Liberte, to take into custody, and convey to Arras, all the males and females who, in 1792, and in 1793, did not attend the masses of the constitutional priests ; a necessary folly in those days.”

At Arras, he had established a revolutionary tribunal, the members of which he used to imprison, when the sentences they pronounced had not gratified his insatiable thirst for blood. On the days of execution (his favourite festivals!) he used to run about the streets, with the collar of his shirt unbuttoned, dragging a huge scymitar after him, and crying out : “ Their business is done—you will see them go by presently, in their way to the scaffold.” After this he constantly dined with the judges, the jurors, and the common hangman.

Armed with his long sabre, and with pistols in his girdle, he was constantly flying backward and forward between Arras and Cambray, accompanied by executioners, a guillotine, a band of music, and players, who called themselves the revolutionary company. One of the hangmen who had been barbarous enough to thrust a bleeding head into the face of a condemned man, standing on the scaffold, was a great favourite of Lebon's. Sometimes he would come himself to count the heads that had been cut off; and once, at Arras, he harrangued the populace out of a window immediately over the guillotine, while the executioner was performing his bloody task.

When the reign of the Terrorists was over, Joseph Lebon was one of the chiefs who suffered the punishment due to their enormous crimes. His own head then fell beneath the guillotine, which he had so often supplied with victims—a poor compensation for the unheard of cruelties with

graven upon the heart of every citizen; and which assumes a new force, when recognized by all.—For a nation to love liberty it is sufficient that she knows it; and to be free, it is sufficient that she will it." On this occasion Mirabeau is said to have felt a pang of envy, that another patriot should have thus given the first hint of so important a project, as that of a new constitution.

Among the numerous plans of a *Declaration of Rights*, the most distinguished were those of the Abbe Seyes, M. de Lafayette, and M. Mounier; the two last corresponded very nearly in principle.

After the recall of Necker, Bailly was chosen mayor, and the Marquis de Lafayette commander in chief of the national guards of Paris.

On the famous fifth of October, 1789, a deputation of the citizens presented themselves to Lafayette, exclaiming, "We will go in search of the King, and bring him to Paris: we must also exterminate the regiment of Flanders, and the body-guards." He received at the same instant a letter from the municipality, enjoining him to march to Versailles: on receiving this order he reluctantly commanded the battalions of the national guards to obey.

The troops, on their arrival at the royal residence, on the evening of the 5th, sought for lodging and repose, and their commander also retired to rest.—Early in the morning, however, a horrible train of calamities, roused him from his indifference and security. He instantly made every exertion to save the body-guards, and it is believed, if he had not vigorously interposed as he did, a still greater number of victims would have fallen on that disastrous morning.

On the grand confederation of the 14th of July, 1789, a spectacle unprecedented for sublimity took place in the *Champ de Mars*. The King, who had been nominated, for this day alone, to the supreme

and absolute command of all the national guards of France, deputed his authority to Lafayette; so that he was on that occasion generalissimo of no less than six millions of armed men!

On the evening before the impolitic flight of Louis XVI, from which event all the subsequent evils of France may be dated, Bailly, the mayor of Paris, communicated to Lafayette his suspicions, and reminded him how much it was his duty to guard the Thuilleries. Lafayette on this went to the palace, renewed himself the watch-word at all the entrances, and left Gouvion, his major-general, at the gate of *Villequier*, to pass the whole night there.

After the return of the King, Lafayette was believed to be reconciled to the Lameths and their party, and it was under the influence of that supposed reconciliation, that the unfortunate affair took place at the *Champ de Mars*. The firing upon the tumultuous people was deemed a conspiracy to assassinate the true patriots, and afterwards proved fatal to the life of Bailly, and the reputation of Lafayette.

In consequence of the events of the 20th of June, 1792, Lafayette, who was then commandant of the army upon the frontiers, wrote a menacing letter against the instigators of the outrage on the King, and also presented himself, on the 29th of June, at the bar of the Assembly, to demand that a prosecution might be commenced against them, and that the Jacobin club should be abolished!

After the 10th of August, several of his letters were found in the palace, conceived to be discreditable to his patriotism, and which tended not a little to disgrace him in the eyes of the Parisians. His name was inserted afterwards in the indictment against Marie Antoinette. He is there called "*in every sense of the word, a favorite of the widow Capet.*" It is certain, however, that he was far from being in the good graces of her Majesty; on the contrary,

she often used to say to her friends : “ *Must I always have that cockcomb before my eyes ?* ” If, therefore, recourse was had to Lafayette, to answer any purpose of the court, it was only because he was commander of the national guards.

Two or three instances may be cited, to prove that the ambition of promoting the cause of freedom, and the improvement and happiness of his country, was the only motive that ever actuated this amiable man. When at the head of the national guards, and possessing considerable influence in the revolutionary government, he, more than any other person, pressed for the organization of a constitution. Being informed that the deputies of the confederated national guards of France designed to invest him with the title of their generalissimo, he proposed, that the National Assembly should decree it unconstitutional to command the national guards of more than one district. When fifteen thousand of those confederated national guards surrounded him, rending the air with their acclamations, he made use of these words : “ Notwithstanding my gratitude to you for your affection, I cannot refrain from an emotion of terror : reserve that enthusiasm for the cause of liberty, and that unbounded attachment only for the laws.”

As soon as the constitution was finished, he resigned the immense power with which he had been entrusted ; retired to his estate, three hundred and sixty miles from the capital, where he resisted all solicitations ; and could not be prevailed on to leave his retirement, till the breaking-out of the war made it his duty to accept of that fatal command which had been conferred on him by the unanimous voice of a fickle nation.

It so happened, however, that he had neither time nor opportunity to display his military talents in their full extent : the glory of saving France was reserved for his rivals in arms. He acted, however

a nobler part in disgrace; for he scorned like Dumouriez, to capitulate with the enemies of his country. He did not deliver himself up, but fell into their hands, in consequence of a violation of the law of nations; for he was seized on neutral ground, and treated as a prisoner of war, after he had ceased to be a soldier.

His imprisonment in the dungeons of Olmutz, reflects no great honour on the house of Austria; and has contributed not a little to explain the true motives of those monarchs on the continent, who embarked in the present war, under the pretext of supporting religion, and restoring order.

In consequence of a letter from Madame Lafayette to a distinguished personage in England, a motion was made in the House of Commons, by General Fitzpatrick, relative to the detention of her husband; and such was the effect produced in this country, and throughout all Europe, in consequence of the eloquent speech on this occasion, that a period was put to his captivity.

Lafayette was at length released in January 1797; and was required by the Marquis de Chastiller, to sign a declaration, amounting to somewhat like a conditional agreement, relative to his enlargement. He denied, however the *right* of his Imperial Majesty, to order him to repair to America; and in the article, in which he agreed never to set foot in the hereditary states, he stipulated, that this should not be supposed to contravene any claim his country had to his services.

General Lafayette resides at present, with his family, in the neighbourhood of Hamburgh, and is not yet wholly recovered from the severities he experienced at Olmutz.

VICTOR HUGUES.

A more extraordinary character has scarcely com-

manded attention since the commencement of the French Revolution, than Victor Hugues. He was unknown before the year 1792, except as a subaltern officer.

The miserable state to which the French West India Islands were reduced, during, the first year of the Republic, occasioned the famous (many say *infamous*) committee of *salut public* to send out commissioners, with extraordinary powers, to endeavour to restore them to the dominion of the mother country. They had been dissevered partly by internal dissensions, and partly by the hostile forces of Great Britain.

The National Convention had just passed a decree, declaring, that negro-slavery in all the French colonies was abolished; and that all men, without distinction of colour, *domiciliated* in the colonies (i. e. settled as in a home), were French citizens; and entitled to all the rights confirmed by the constitution. It was for some time a dispute in the committee whether this signal decree should be committed to a general who had already distinguished himself in the army of the Rhine, or to Hugues, Chretien, &c. strongly recommended by two members of the other committees of government, who were acquainted with their patriotism and courage.

Two other commissioners were united to Victor Hugues: he appears, however, to have undertaken the most dangerous part of their duty. He put his life to the greatest hazard, in carrying the decree and his own proclamations among the revolted negroes, who had assembled in vast numbers, in defiance of all government; and he had address enough to convey them into the British lines and thereby greatly shook the attachment of the armed slaves to the British cause.

His proclamation was the most undaunted step ever taken; and to it, more than to any other measure, do the French ascribe their good fortune in

recovering their much-valued island of Guadaloupe.

Victor Hugues made his landing good at Point Petre, notwithstanding a powerful British fleet lay within five leagues of it; and, by a promptitude and hardihood which have, perhaps, surpassed any action of an individual since the commencement of the Revolution, brought the island within the pale of the republican government. He afterwards carried hostilities into two neighbouring colonies, and realized, by his own share of the captures, a fortune, it is said, of no less than eight millions of livres. Such has been the success, of a commissioner of the new government, with the *brevet*, or *local rank*, of general, armed chiefly with a decree of enfranchisement to slaves, who, though our fellow-creatures, are impiously pronounced unworthy to receive, or unable to maintain liberty.

Victor Hugues has been continued in his command, after the fall of his original patrons; but that circumstance arose entirely from the distance of the theatre on which he had been acting.

He has achieved much, yet he deserves neither love nor admiration; for he may be truly said not to possess a single drop of the "milk of human kindness" in his whole composition. In the days of Jacobin frenzy, he might have been panegyricized, as he expected; now that phrenzy had passed by, his conduct, like that of his party, is of course devoted to the execration of mankind.

RABAUD ST. ETIENNE,

One of the most able and virtuous founders of the French Republic, was, before the Revolution, a Protestant minister at Nismes, in Languedoc, of which city he was a native. Though not equal in talents to Mirabeau, Barnave, and Sieyès, yet he exceeded most of his colleagues in the Constituent Assembly, in activity and enthusiasm. He was ri-

effectual stop to Prince Cobourg's progress, which till then had appeared to be irresistible. At the very moment of victory he was dismissed by the revolutionary governors of France, who were equally jealous of great talents, and of great success. It was at once curious and deplorable to see those brutal and suspicious tyrants guillotine a General if he lost a battle, and cashier him if he triumphed over the enemies of his country.

General Jourdan was however restored to his command, and he beat Prince Cobourg again at the bloody and decisive engagement of Fleurus, remarkable for a circumstance till then unheard of in military history. While the enemy was advancing, and as long as the combat lasted, an *aeronaut*, who hovered over the head of both armies, sent General Jourdan *bulletins*, or short notices of Prince Cobourg's movements, on scraps of paper fastened to metal rings that ran down the cords by which the balloon was retained in its station.

Jourdan's fortune was more chequered in the campaign of 1796. After penetrating into the heart of Germany, his army was compelled to measure back its footsteps to the Rhine, in great disorder and dismay. Much blame was consequently cast upon the General's conduct, by those military critics who never fail to judge by the event, and who would have proclaimed his skill, if a different chain of accidents had crowned the self same operations with success.

During the late proceedings of the French Senate, General Jourdan conducted himself in such a manner as to obtain the confidence of the Directory, while his colleague, Pichegru, was condemned to transportation. In consequence of this, he has been again called into action, having set off in Nov. for the army of the Rhine, where he undoubtedly hopes to wipe off the stain formerly occasioned by the disorganization of his army, which was in-

initely more disgraceful than the loss of a pitched battle.

GENERAL DUMOURIEZ.

The career of this officer was short, but it must be allowed to have been splendid. At one critical period he fixed the destinies of France, at another, he had nearly overturned the mighty labours of his own genius ; and such is the singularity of his fortune, that he is now equally detested by the Royalists, whom he opposed and the Republicans whom he so powerfully assisted.

Charles Francis Dumouriez was born at Cambray, in French Flanders, on the 25th of January, 1739. His father, who had served in the army during his youth, but afterwards followed the more profitable employment of a commissary, became his instructor, and seems to have been at uncommon pains relative to his education. On being sent to the college of Louis le Grand, he evinced a most ardent desire to become a Jesuit ; but his friends having dissuaded him from this, he declared in favour of the law ; here also he was disappointed a second time in the object of his choice ; at length he became a soldier, and this, perhaps, was the profession best suited to his temper and his genius.

After serving for some time as a volunteer in the regiment of Descars he procured a commission. On the evening before the French army was attacked at Closter Camp, by the present Duke of Brunswick, Dumouriez happening to be out on a reconnoitering party, after a gallant resistance, was taken prisoner by the Baron de Behr, one of his aides-de-camp, and he dates his rise from this circumstance ; for his Highness treated him with great respect, and actually sent him back to his general, with a letter replete with his praise. It is a curious coincidence of circumstances, that Dumouriez should command

diculed by Mr. Burke, for his declaration, that *“all the ancient establishments were a nuisance to the people ;”* and, *“in respect to the people themselves, we ought,”* added he *“to renew their minds, to change their ideas, their laws, their manners ; to alter men, things, words ; in fine, to destroy every thing, that we may create every thing anew.”*

So much has already been published respecting this deputy, that little room is left to enlarge upon his character in this work ; the object of which has been chiefly to publish what is not generally known.

The violent patriotism of Rabaud is supposed to have been stimulated by the insults which, through life, a protestant minister, he had experienced from the Catholics. Almost every decree which was passed against the abuses of the established Hierarchy, and in favour of religious toleration, was either first moved by him, or enacted in consequence of the exertions of his eloquence.

In May 1790, he was elected President of the Assembly, and on this occasion he bore the following testimony of the triumph of reason and philosophy, over prejudice and fanaticism. *“How much,”* said, he, *“would Louis the XIV. be astonished if he were to return back to the world again ! What would that destroyer of the blessings bequeathed us by our good Henry say, if he beheld the National Assembly of the French people presided by a Protestant Minister ? The choice, as a matter of principle, does the highest honour to the Assembly ; it is a new and glorious triumph of liberty, reason, and justice.—Representatives, by thus bestowing your favours upon me, you set a great example, and consecrate the sincerity and the independence of your intentions.”*

In 1792, he was appointed a member of the National Convention, for one of the southern departments. In that turbulent and discordant Assembly his prudence, and acknowledged good intentions,

enabled him to steer clear of the war of parties; he consequently escaped in the proscriptions of the Gironde, which proved fatal to nearly all the virtue in the Convention. It could scarcely, however, be expected, that so good a man as Rabaud could shelter himself from the suspicious fury of Robespierre. Perceiving that it was impossible to evade the jealousy of the tyrant, he absented himself from the Convention, and in consequence was outlawed and declared a traitor to his country, by a decree of the 28th of July, 1793.

He continued secreted at the house of a friend in Paris till the 6th of December, when, being unfortunately arrested, and his person identified before the Revolutionary Tribunal of Paris, he was, without further ceremony, condemned to death, and guillotined on the following day, in the 50th year of his age.

GENERAL JOURDAN.

General Jourdan is a native of Limoges. It is said that he was a stationer before the Revolution; and that his wife has since kept a shop at Paris.—As both these accounts have long stood uncontradicted, there is every reason to believe them true. The same cannot be said of an absurd attempt made by the emigrants and by the enemies of France, in spite of the strongest evidence to the contrary, to identify the brave General with the ruffian known in the South of France, by the name of *Jourdain, the head-loppe*r.—In the whole of his military career, General Jourdan's humanity has been no less conspicuous than his courage.

Among the many services which this officer has rendered to his country, one of the most signal was the battle of Maubeuge, by which he compelled the Austrians to raise the siege of that place, and put an

effectual stop to Prince Cobourg's progress, which till then had appeared to be irresistible. At the very moment of victory he was dismissed by the revolutionary governors of France, who were equally jealous of great talents, and of great success. It was at once curious and deplorable to see those brutal and suspicious tyrants guillotine a General if he lost a battle, and cashier him if he triumphed over the enemies of his country.

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an army against his benefactor, thirty-two years afterwards, and actually oblige him to retire from Champagne.

Soon after this he obtained the *brevet* rank of a captain of horse; but at the peace of 1763, he was dismissed, along with a multitude of other brave officers, with a *Croix de St. Louis*; a pension, which like most of the *meritorious rewards* under the monarchy, was never paid; and a body scarred with wounds, this young soldier having received no fewer than two and twenty!

Happening to obtain the patronage of the Duke de Choiseul, then prime minister, he travelled thro' Spain and Portugal, and seems to have been employed in transmitting military details relative to both these countries.

In 1768 he was recalled, and sent to Corsica, the French court at that period having dispatched an army thither, without any reasonable pretext, but merely with a view of subjugating the brave islanders, and adding their territory to the monarchy. Although Dumouriez served there as a quartermaster general, repeatedly distinguished himself by his personal bravery and military talents, he has often been heard to lament that he should have engaged in so unjust a contest.

In 1770 he was ordered to Poland by the Duke de Choiseul, and while in that country organized the troops, furnished the supplies and regulated the affairs of the insurgents, who were openly supported by France. On the death of his patron he was, however, recalled, and on his return to his native country, was shut up for a considerable time in the Bastille. Soon after his release he married, and resided at Cherbourg, of which he was appointed *commandant*.

Being of an active and enterprising disposition, he turned his thoughts, during the American war, to

an invasion of G. Britain, and actually planned a descent on the Isle of Wight in 1778.

On the Revolution Dumouriez joined the patriots; this however does not seem to have taken place, until he perceived the imbecility of the court, and saw that the former must triumph. In consequence of his professions, he was admitted into the cabinet, and soon contrived, by means of his intrigues with the Queen, to turn out the Brissotins. After a short administration of three or four months, as Minister for Foreign Affairs, and of as many days at the head of the war department, he himself was obliged to resign, in consequence of the treachery of a great personage. On this he left Paris, joined the army, was at first treated with *hauteur* by Luckner, but at length invested with the command of the camp at Maulde, where he soon distinguished himself, by restoring discipline, and resuming offensive measures.

The conduct of Lafayette having filled the minds of the Constitutionalists with a suspicion, Dumouriez, on the defection of that general, was entrusted with the command of the army, destined to save his native country. With about 19,000 troops, unaccustomed to service, he took post at Grandpre, in the forest of Argonne, and stopped the progress of the combined forces, consisting of rival nations, headed by the most celebrated general in Europe.

The famous battle of Jemappe was the first decisive victory gained by France, (for she owed her safety to the *retreat* of the grand army) and the conquest of the Austrian Netherlands followed as a matter of course. The subsequent exploits of Dumouriez were less brilliant: his victories he owes solely to himself, and his defeats are attributed by him to the minister Pache, and the deputy Cambon, the first of whom destroyed the army by withholding necessaries, while the latter aroused a fa-

tal spirit of discontent in the provinces, by the system of contributions and exactions.

At length the determined enemy of the emigrants, emigrated himself! But as he could not prevail on many of his army to accompany him, the Austrians received him very coolly.

Dumouriez now resides at Kiel, in Holstein, where he earns his bread by his pen, full as honourably as ever he did with his sword. He is engaged as one of the writers in a French journal printed in Germany, and is the author of many publications, such as *Tableau Speculatif de l'Europe*, a History of his own Life, in three volumes, 8vo. an Account of Portugal, 4to. a Pamphlet in Reply to Camus, a Political View of France, a Letter to the translator of his Life, and a Dialogue between Billaud de Varenne and Barthelemy, the Director, respecting the Defection of the latter. The Parisian wits, alluding to his own history, observe, that "treachery and treason are traced in this performance with the hand of a master!" However, with all his errors and all his faults, posterity will probably consider Dumouriez as a great man.

THE END.











